profeſſing the reformed religion, by the courts of London, Copenhagen, and Berlin; a petition was repreſented to the King in 1765, in which the *Diſſidents* demanded to be reinſtated in their ancient rights and privileges, and to be placed on the ſame footing as the Roman Catholics: for as they very juſtly obſerved, "the difference of ſentiments upon ſome points of religion, among Chriſtians, ought not to enter into any conſideration with regard to the employments of the ſtate. The various ſects," added they, "although they differ in opinion among themſelves, with reſpect to ſome matters of doctrine, yet agree in one point, that of being faithful to their ſovereign, and obedient to his orders: all the Chriſtian courts are convinced of this fact; and, therefore having always this principle in view, and without paying any regard to the religion they profeſs, Chriſtian princes ought only to ſeek after thoſe whoſe merits and talents enable them to ſerve their country." This petition was referred to the Diet, but the fanatical and intolerant clergy who ſat there, oppoſed every attempt for the melioration of the condition of their fellow ſubjects, and thus, by a narrow and deſpicable policy, prevented a powerful body of men from aſſiſting their country in the diſturbances that enſued.

Hitherto Staniſlaus had experienced but little public oppoſition to his government, being prohibited by a powerful army of Ruſſians; but this ſemblance of tranquillity did not continue long. The Ottoman Porte, indignant at the conduct of the Empreſs towards Poland, and inſtigated by the intrigues of the French * court, reſolved upon war. Accordingly, the Ruſſian miniſter, Oberekkoff, was ſhut up in the ſeven towers, and hoſtilities proclaimed in 1768.

This appeared a favourite moment for the Poles, who had hitherto been terrified rather than ſubdued. Prince Radzivil, and a powerful body of the nobility, accordingly aſſociated together, and they were cordially ſupported by the dignified clergy; all, however, out of a love of liberty, than a hatred to the protecteds of the *Diſſidents!* At length a regular inſurrection commenced, and the *Confederation of Bar*, as it was termed, began to aſſume a formidable appearance.

The confederates were protected underhand by the court of Vienna, and more publicly by that of Verſailles; the latter, indeed, ſupplied them with money, arms, and ammunition, provided them with ſome veteran officers, and the Duke de Choiſeul actually ſent Dumouriez thither with diplomatic powers.

Catharine temporized. The flower of her army was employed in a diſtant warfare, againſt the Muſſelman on the borders of the Danube and the Dneiſter. She therefore had recourſe to artifice, and ſet up a counter-confederation, at the head of which ſhe placed a King of her own creation. Her generals, Gallitzin, and Romanzoff, had, however, no ſooner acquired a deciſive ſuperiority over the Turks, than ſhe prepared for offenſive operations, and carried on a conteſt againſt the Poles, in the name of Poland, with a ferocity that would have diſgraced the moſt ſavage nation. The nobles of the patriotic party, when taken, were generally maſſacred; a few palantines were reſerved for a more dreadful fate; for, of ſome their tongues were cut out, and of others, the members were mutilated; and, in this ſituation, they were expoſed to the unrelenting ſcorn of their foes, and the unavailing compaſſion of their countrymen*. The houſe of

* Choiſeul was at that time prime miniſter, and de Vergennes ambaſſador at Conſtantinople.

* The booty taken by the Ruſſians, was immenſe; and, if we are to give credit to a late publication of ſome celebrity, the Empreſs herſelf received the famous library of Prince Radzivil, as her ſhare of the ſpoil!

Auſtria alſo, was induced by the allurements of freſh acquiſitions, to declare againſt them; and even France, which had hitherto given aſſiſtance underhand, at length withdrew her aid. Thus left to their own ſcanty reſources, it affords but little room for wonder, that a nobility, which thought itſelf degraded by carrying arms in any other manner than on horſeback, and an enſlaved peaſantry, reluctantly ſerving on foot, in a quarrel in which they did not think themſelves intereſted, ſhould prove an unequal match for a powerful domeſtic party, headed by their own king, and a foreign army, ſupported by all the clergy of a great empire. We ought rather to be aſtoniſhed, how a handful of brave nobles, could have been able to ſupport ſuch an unequal conteſt, during the years 1769, 1770, and 1771; this, however, they actually effected, and, had they been but properly ſeconded by any foreign power, would aſſuredly have proved triumphant. As it was, the King was obliged to ſhut himſelf up in Warſaw, and was indebted for his perſonal ſecurity, to a body of foreign mercenaries: even then, indeed, he was not entirely ſafe from the enterpriſe of the Confederates; for on the third of September, 1771, he was ſeized in the ſtreets of his capital, by a reſolute band of horſemen; and had it not been for the treachery of Koſzinſki, he would have been carried to the camp of Pulawſki, and given an unwilling, but formidable ſanction to the proceedings of the Confederates.

The interviews of ſovereigns are but too often fatal to the intereſts of the human race. During the conference at Neiſs, in Sileſia, in 1769, between Joſeph II. and the king of Pruſſia, the latter firſt broached the idea of the diſmemberment of Poland; and ſent his brother, Prince Henry, to Peterſburgh, to ſound the diſpoſition of Catharine, on that ſubject. In a ſecond interview, at Neuſtadt in Auſtria, the project of ſpoliation was ſettled; and in 1772, this groſs violation of the law of nations was perpetrated, and the Diet forced to announce its pretended aſſent, by means of a ſolemn act of renunciation. Thus Poland was deprived of large and fertile territories, bereaved of five millions of inhabitants, and forced to relinquiſh half her annual income, by the arts and arms of Ruſſia, Auſtria, and Pruſſia. It is not a little memorable, and it is worthy of the attention of thoſe who mark the revolutions of empires, that * one of thoſe eſtates was formerly held in vaſſalage by the Poles; another had ſeen its capital and throne poſſeſſed by them; and a third had been indebted to a king of that nation†, for the preſervation of its metropolis, and almoſt for its exiſtence as an independent kingdom.

The bad faith of theſe imperial and royal ſpoilers, is ſo much the more notorious, when it is recollected, that in 1764, the Empreſs of Ruſſia had tranſmitted to the court of Warſaw, a renunciation of all claims on Poland, ſigned with her own hand, and ſealed with the ſeal of the empire; that in the very ſame year, the King of Pruſſia alſo ſolemnly relinquiſhed all claims and pretenſions, and that the Empreſs-queen in 1771, not only abſolutely diſclaimed any right to any of the dominions of the republic, but even affected to conſider herſelf as the guarantee of the integrity of its territories. "The partitionary policy of the continental deſpots," as it is termed by an Engliſh biſhop‡, may appear to ſuperficial obſervers, to be attended only with local and temporary conſequences; it is not to be concealed, however, that it gave a total blow not only to European policy, but alſo to

* Poland could never be prevailed on to acknowledge Pruſſia as a kingdom until 1764.

† John Sobieſki.

‡ Dr WATSON, "*Chemical Eſſays*," vol. iv. Pref. page 7.

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the ſuppoſed faith of princes, and prepared the way, in ſome meaſure, for the revolutions that have ſince enſued.

The Poles have been overawed by the three great allied powers on the continent, but, as yet, they were not annihilated as a nation. They perceived all the dangers of an elective monarchy, in a feeble ſtate, ſurrounded by powerful neighbours, and they determined to remove the cauſe of ſo many calamities. A general enthuſiaſm ſeized the minds of the people; the cities, in particular, evinced the moſt earneſt deſire for a change in the exiſting conſtitution, and this was accordingly effected by the revolution of the 3d of May, 1791. The republic once more caſt its eyes towards Saxony, and a new dynaſty was to commence in the perſon, and be hereditary in the family of Frederic Auguſtus.

A great orator, now no more, has laviſhed much unneceſſary praiſe on a ſcheme that was falſe and hollow, which afforded new pretexts for freſh confiſcations, and, at length, led to the entire ſubjugation of Poland. "This revolution," ſays he, "was affected with a policy, a diſcretion, an unanimity, and ſecrecy, ſuch as have never before been known on any occaſion; but ſuch wonderful conduct was reſerved for this glorious conſpiracy, in favour of the true and genuine rights and intereſts of men. Happy people! if they know how to proceed as they have begun! happy prince, worthy to begin with ſplendor, or to cloſe with glory, a race of patriots and of kings, and to leave

"A name, which ev'ry mind to heav'n will bear,
"Which men do tell, and angels joy to hear."

In expreſs oppoſition to this, it may be obſerved, that the ſeeming conſent of Pruſſia to the new conſtitution, was a ſnare obviouſly laid for the deſtruction of the republic; that the King was drawn into the vortex, rather by the current of the popular opinion, than the genuine impulſe of his own ſentiments; and that no proviſion was made for infranchiſing the peaſants, and peopling and defending a free country, with freemen.

"What conſtitutes a ſtate?
Not high rais'd battlements, or labour'd mound,
Thick wall, or moated gate;
Not cities proud, with ſpires and turrets crown'd;
Not bays and broad-arm'd ports,
Where laughing at the ſtorm, rich navies ride;
Not ſtarr'd and ſpangled courts,
Where low-brow'd baſeneſs wafts perfume to pride;
——No: men, high-minded men,
With powers as far above dull brutes endued,
In foreſt, brake, or den,
As beaſts excel cold rocks and brambles rude:
Men who their duties know,
But know their rights, and knowing dare maintain;
Prevent the long-aim'd blow,
And cruſh the tyrant while they rend the chain:
Theſe conſtitute a ſtate.

The Elector of Saxony, on being conſulted reſpecting a meaſure, ſeemingly calculated to illuſtrate his family, coldly declined his aſſent, and the Empreſs of Ruſſia having poured in freſh troops, the new conſtitution was abandoned. This attempt of a free nation to meliorate its condition, was actually conſidered as an inſurrection; and Zuboff, the paramour of the Empreſs, is ſaid to have decided on the utter annihilation of Poland, as an independent ſtate. But an avenger ſeemed to ſtart up, in the perſon of the brave Koſciuſko, whoſe brilliant actions afforded a ſhort gleam of comfort to his countrymen; it was impoſſible, however, to ſave a nation in which the peaſants had been depreſſed by bondage, and the nobles had degenerated into the worſt of tyrants, by means of an uſurped authority.

The ravages committed by the Ruſſians beggar all deſcription. The cruel

cruel Suwarroff*, acting like an exterminating angel, put 20,000 men, women, and children to the ſword in Praga† alone, and ſuch of the chiefs as eſcaped military execution, were tranſferred to Ruſſia, where they languiſhed in priſon, until they were releaſed by the clemency of the preſent Emperor.

King Staniſlaus, who had hitherto acted a part merely paſſive, and neglected, like a magnanimous prince, to chooſe between a coffin and a crown, was involved in the miſeries of his country. Accordingly, he was obliged to remove from Warſaw to Grodno, where he reſigned all pretenſions to the crown, on the 25th of November, 1795. He remained in obſcurity ſome time after this forced abdication, and finally retiring to Ruſſia on a penſion, fell a victim to an apoplexy, at St Peterſburgh, on the 12th of April, 1798, O. S.

Thus died, in exile, in the 67th year of his age, Staniſlaus Auguſtus Poniatowſky, the laſt king of Poland. It was deſtined, that the ſame hand which had preſented, ſhould bereave him of his crown; he would have left it ſome years ſooner, had it not been for the generous intervention of Potemkin, who ſaw, converſed with, and conceived a great friendſhip for his Majeſty, during the Empreſs' excurſion to the Crimea. This prince had two ſecret interviews with Catharine; the firſt was at Riga, in 1764; the other after an interval of twenty-three years, in 1787, on board a yacht, in the river Dnieper. The ſecond conference laſted only thirty minutes; and on its concluſion, Catharine decorated her old lover with the order of St Andrew.

Poniatowſky had a taſte for the fine arts, and was intimately acquainted with all the beſt authors of France, Germany, Italy, and England. He was particularly attached to this country; and, during his reſidence here as a private gentleman, was balloted for, and elected a member of the Royal Society. His Majeſty is ſuppoſed to have been privately married to a lady who lived many years with him, and by whom he has had ſeveral children.

Of the family of the unfortunate Poniatowſky, there is ſtill alive:—

1. His eldeſt brother Caſimir, Prince Poniatowſky, born on the 15th of September, 1721, who was married, in 1757, to Apollonia, daughter of Baſil Uſtrzyky, Caſtellan of Przemiſl, by whom he has two ſons, Staniſlaus and Conſtantius.

2. His ſiſter Louiſa, now in her 70th year, widow of Count John Zamoiſky.

3. His ſiſter Iſabella, now in her 68th year, widow of Count John Clement Branicky.

4. His nephew, Joſeph Anthony, ſon of Prince Andrew Poniatowſky, formerly general of the troops of the republic.

5. Maria Thereſa Antonietta Joſepina, the wife of Count de Tyſkiewicz. *Monthly Mag.*

* This monſter has been called by the preſent Emperor.

† One of the ſuburbs of Warſaw.

CHARACTER OF LORD BOLINGBROKE.

By Swift.

"I THINK Mr Secretary St John the greateſt young man I ever knew. Wit—capacity—beauty—quickneſs of apprehenſion—good learning—and an excellent taſte. The beſt orator in the Houſe of Commons. Admirable converſation—good nature and good manners—generous, and a deſpiſer of money. His only fault is talking to his friends, by way of complaint, of too great a load of buſineſs; this looks a little like affectation; and he endeavours too much to mix the fine gentleman and the man of pleaſure with the man of buſineſs. What truth and

and ſincerity he might have I know not—he is not above *thirty-two*, and has been Secretary of State above a year—Is not all this extraordinary?"

By Lord Cheſterfield.

"In a converſation I had this day with Lord Cheſterfield upon the ſubject of Lord Bolingbroke, he told me, that though nobody ſpoke and wrote better on philoſophy than his Lordſhip, no man in the world had leſs ſhare of philoſophy than himſelf; that the leaſt trifle, ſuch as the over-roaſting of a leg of mutton, would ſtrangely diſturb and ruffle his temper, and that his paſſions conſtantly got the better of his judgment."

He added that no man was more partial to his friends, and more ready to oblige them, than he was; and that he would recommend them, and repreſent them ſo many models of perfection. But on the other hand, he was a moſt bitter enemy to thoſe he hated; and though their merit might be out of all diſpute, he would not allow them the leaſt ſhare of it, but would pronounce them ſo many fools and blockheads."

By Madame de Maintenon.

When Bolingbroke was on his return to England after his baniſhment, Madame De Maintenon ſaid to our Miniſter at Paris upon the occaſion, "I wiſh your Maſter joy of his new ſubject: I hope he will profit much by him—*C'eſt homme le plus ingrat—le plus coquin, et le plus ſcelerat, que je connois.*"

ANECDOTES AND GLEANINGS.

SIR ROBERT TAYLOR

affords a ſtriking example of the habit and good effects of *early riſing*. We have been informed that this gentleman, who was bred an architect, and followed it with conſiderable reputation, never was found in bed, for the ſpace of forty years, after five o'clock. He lived in good health to ſeventy-five years of age, and left, to his only ſon, the preſent Michael Angelo Taylor, Eſq; a fortune of above *one hundred thouſand pounds*, beſide an handſome jointure to his widow.

His death was occaſioned by a cold which he caught attending the funeral of a friend.

CRITICISM.

The firſt piece of criticiſm in our language, worthy of attention, was Sir Philip Sydney's "Defence of Poeſie." Spencer is ſaid to have written a critical diſcourſe, called "The Poet;" the loſs of which, conſidering the exquiſite taſte and extenſive learning of Spenſer, is much to be regretted. Next came Daniel's Apology; then Ben Jonſon's Diſcoveries, the Preface to Gondibert, Hobbes' Letter to D'Avenant, the Preface and Notes of Cowley, (whoſe proſe ſtyle, by the way, is admirable) Temple's Eſſays, Dryden's Eſſay on Dramatic Poetry, and his various Prefaces and Prologues, Rymer's Preface to Rapin, and Letter on Tragedy, Dennis' Reformation of Poetry, and the Eſſays of Roſcommon and Buckingham. Theſe (ſays Dr Warton) were the critical pieces that preceded Popes' Eſſay on Criticiſm, which was publiſhed without his name, May 1711, and (as Lewis the bookſeller told me) did not ſell at firſt, till the author ſent copies as preſents, to ſeveral eminent perſons.

It is not improper to obſerve what great improvements the Art of Criticiſm has received ſince this Eſſay was written. Without recurring to pieces of earlier date, and nearer the time in which it was written, we have the Eſſays in the Spectator and Guardian, Shaftesbury's Advice to an Author, Spence on the Odyſſey, Fenton on Waller, and Blackwell's Enquiry into the Life and Writtings of Homer. Even of late years, we have had the Treatiſes of Harris, Hurd's Remarks on Horace, Obſervations on the Fai-

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ry Queen, Web on Poetry and Muſic, Brown's Diſſertation on the ſame, the Diſſertations of Beattie, Lord Kaime's Elements of Criticiſm, Blair's Lectures; the Critical Papers in the Rambler, Adventurer, World, and Connoiſſeur; Johnſon's Lives of the Poets; the Biographia Britannica; the Poetics of Ariſtotle, tranſlated, and accompanied by judicious notes by Twining and Pye; the tranſlations, with notes of Horace's Art of Poetry, by Hurd and Coleman; and the Epiſtles of Hayley.

ELEGY TO THE MEMORY OF AN UNFORTUNATE LADY.

THE true cauſe of the excellence of this Elegy is, that the occaſion of it was real; ſo true is the maxim, that nature is more powerful than fancy; that we can always feel more than we can imagine; and that the moſt artful fiction muſt give way to truth; for this lady was beloved by Pope. After many and wide enquiries, I have been informed that her name was Wainſbury; and that (which is a ſingular circumſtance) ſhe was as ill ſhaped and deformed as our author. Her death was not by a ſword, but, what would leſs bear to be told poetically, ſhe hanged herſelf. Johnſon has too ſeverely cenſured this Elegy, when he ſays, 'that it has drawn much attention by the illaudable ſingularity, of treating ſuicide with reſpect;' and that 'poetry has not been often worſe employed, than in dignifying the amorous fury of a raving girl.' She ſeems to have been driven to this deſperate act by the violence and cruelty of her uncle and guardian, who forced her to a convent abroad; and to which circumſtance Pope alludes in one of his Letters.

NEWTON.

NEWTON was born on the very day which Galileo died. When Ramſay was one day complimenting him on his diſcoveries in philoſophy, he anſwered, as I read it in Spence's Anecdotes, 'Alas! I am only like a child, picking up pebbles on the ſhore of the great ocean of truth.'

LORD GALWAY.

This Nobleman, who is ſo often mentioned in the annals of Queen Anne, though not a very fortunate General, was a man of uncommon penetration and merit. He often viſited the old Marchioneſs of Halifax, the widow of the celebrated Marquis, and here meeting with the late Earl of Cheſterfield, whom he obſerved had a ſtrong inclination for political life, gave him the following advice:

"If you intend to be a man of buſineſs, you muſt be an *early riſer*. In the diſtinguiſhed poſts which rank and fortune will entitle you to fill, you will be liable to have viſitors at every hour of the day; and unleſs you *will riſe continually at an early hour* you will never have any leiſure for yourſelf."—This admonition, delivered in the moſt obliging manner, made a conſiderable impreſſion on the mind of young Cheſterfield, who ever after obſerved that excellent rule.

MAXIMS.

M. Chamfort ſays in his Maxims,

'The laws that reſpect a ſecret, and a ſum of money entruſted to a man, ſhould ſtand upon the ſame foundation.

'One of my friends, a man of very delicate health, but of great ſtrength of character, uſed to ſay of himſelf, I am as well the reed that bends and never breaks, as the oak that breaks and never bends, *homo interior totus nervus*.

'A man without character is a thing, not a man.

'A man without principles is commonly a man without character. Had he been born with a character, he muſt have ſeen the neceſſity of forming to himſelf principles conſiſtent with it.

'Vanity cauſes a man to exert his talents more forcibly than he otherwiſe would have done. Put a flick to a piece of pointed iron it becomes a dart, add a few feathers to it and it becomes an arrow.'

ANNA.—A FRAGMENT.

FROM FRAMGENTS IN THE MANNER OF STERNE.

Concluded from Page 164.

THE following was the letter from Flanders:

"DEAR ANNA!

"I am ſorry to write you bad news —Indeed I am!——Edward received two ſhots in yeſterday's engagement.——Poor fellow!——We laid many a night in the ſame tent!—— We had a great regard for each other —for we partly ſhared the ſame fate ——I was *kidnapped* as well as him. ——The loſs of me has broken an aged mother's heart.——I maintain'd her once!——She periſhed with grief and hunger.——How many a night has Edward and myſelf ſhed tears—inſtead of being aſleep—and fretted on our ſtraw!——He has often told me how happy you lived together,—and what ſweet little children you had.——"I ſhall never ſee them again, James!"—he'd ſay—then turn his head from me, and weep like a child!——I wiſh I had been killed inſtead of him!—— He bade me ſend to you the incloſed little locker, which you gave him, (as he told me) for his kindneſs to a ſparrow——He gave it to me juſt before they dreſſed his wounds;——about eight hours after, he died!——Had the ſerjeant been as kind to Edward, as Edward was to a *bird*—this would not have been.——What a ſhame! ——They look more cool here, in killing men, and ſeeing bloodſhed,—than we do in the country when we kill the inſects that blight our trees. ——I never thought that men could be ſo cruel, Anna!——If ever I return, I'll maintain you and your children inſtead of my mother.—Your unfortunate friend,

JAMES."

"If the great folks were to feel what we feel,—they wouldn't be ſo ready to make wars."

Before my uncle Toby had half read the letter,—he went to the door to finiſh it.——Anna (ſaid he to himſelf) has ſorrows enough of her own, —without ſeeing mine too!——

Generous Toby!——

Tell me, Anna—ſaid my uncle Toby, in a tone of the ſweeteſt ſympathy as ever hung on the lips of humanity,——tell me, Anna—how can I make thee forget thy troubles?—— I never ſhall forget them!—ſaid Anna, claſping her hands together——but I ſhall remember your kindneſs and Mr Trim's as long as I live.

Had nature placed *ſpeech* in her heart, ſhe could not have ſpoken with more ſincerity.——

The *looks* of Trim, and of my uncle Toby, acknowledged it, and anſwered her;——"Thy thanks have cancelled the obligation that thou owedſt unto us,—if fellow-feeling—which we naturally owe to each other —may be thus accounted an obligation."——

Give me the other letter, Anna—ſaid my uncle Toby, (in the modulation of tenderneſs)—I have a uſe for it—and I hope for thy happineſs.——

Anna drew the letter *ſlowly* from her boſom,—it was a hard trial!—— it was parting with the deareſt companion ſhe had—except her children: ——but gratitude whiſpered in her ear——"Thy benefactor aſks it!" ——Here it is!—ſaid Anna, with the moſt patient ſweetneſs.——

My uncle Toby folded up the letters in a blank cover which he had prepared before he ſet out;——it was his intention to have ſent the one that Trim had repeated to him,—to Anna's father.——He thought there was ſtrength ſufficient in *that*;——but ſuch a reinforcement as the one from Flanders!——and the expedition to be conducted by Trim, too!——it couldn't fail.——

I will not advance a line—ſaid my uncle Toby, as he incloſed the letters ——There is force enough,—quoth he,—

he,—to take the ſtrongeſt fortreſs, that was ever garriſoned by anger or revenge.——I'll not write a word in it.——

Here, Anna!—continued my uncle Toby, (with as much generous and military warmth, as if he were planning the relief of ſome important poſt) —be of good cheer, my dear laſs!—the day may be ours?——direct this, in your own hand-writing—to your father.——

Trim took a pen from a little caſe which he drew from his pocket, and, dipping it in the ink, gave it to Anna. ——Anna took the pen——her lips grew pale—her hand trembled:—— He will not open it!—ſaid ſhe, ſighing deeply;——he knows my writing too well!——

As ſhe finiſhed the direction, a drop —as clear and ſpotleſs as the eye of innocence ever ſhed—fell on it;—— it would have done honour to the brighteſt page of mercy:——But, alas!—it was the conſecration of worthleſſneſs;——for the tear of virtuous dejection mingled with the name of a father, and an enemy!——

Unnatural union!——

Trim ſhall take it!—ſaid my uncle Toby, addreſſing himſelf to Anna—he's a kind ſoul, and will act for you as a brother;——and if we are defeated, Anna,—I will be as a father to you, and to your children;—— they ſhall have my bowling-green to gambol in;——and, when they look around, and ſee my fortifications,—— which may remind them of the means by which they loſt their father,—— they may then look up with a grateful countenance,—and thank the Being of Beings, who has ſent them another in his ſtead.——Trim ſhall take it!—— An' pleaſe your honour—ſaid Trim—he cannot hold out long!——Tell him, Trim—quoth my uncle Toby—that I am an old ſoldier, who received a wound,——

What!—exclaimed Anna, (with a look of frantic pity)—and were you kidnapped too?——No, my poor laſs!—replied my uncle Toby—I went willingly to the wars.——The profeſſion of a ſoldier is an honourable one—when it is honourably uſed—to *reſiſt oppreſſion*, not *ſupport it*.——It is meant as a ſhield to cover thoſe who are not able to protect themſelves. ——Tell him—continued my uncle Toby, addreſſing himſelf to Trim—that my wound prevents my hazarding fatigue, or I ſhould have had the honour of waiting on him myſelf.—— But firſt attend me to the inn, Trim, where I will wait thy return.——

The landlord of Anna's cottage was fortunately unlike the common run of thoſe beings:——ſhe owed her rent;—ſhe was welcome to owe it!——

My uncle Toby, at parting, tenderly kiſſed the children;——the tears were in his eyes.——He gave Anna—firſt his hand, and then his purſe:——ſhe received them both with that timid modeſty—which a delicate mind commonly accepts with.——

Anna locked the door of her cottage——ſhe fled to her landlord—and immediately paid her rent.——

Anna was honeſt, too, amid all her ſorrows.——

Surely with all theſe virtues, her father will forgive her!——

Leave we Trim, enter'd on his new commiſſion.——

My uncle Toby was now ſeated at the fire ſide, with his pipe in his mouth.——I wiſh—ſaid he, in a tone of feeling impatience—I wiſh Trim was returned.——At that moment the door opened, and Trim entered.—— My uncle Toby ſtarted up from his chair——"A capitulation, Trim?" ——An' pleaſe your honour replied Trim, in a firm tone of voice—— *Your may ſtarve him out ſooner.*

Had my uncle Toby, at the head of a brave legion, been totally defeated, he could not have looked more ſorrowful:——the pipe dropped between his fingers, and the tobacco fell from it to the ground.——

As'

An' pleaſe your honour—ſaid Trim—when I ſaw him——I couldn't ſpeak to him.——I didn't like his countenance——but I gave him the packet.——He looked at the direction,—then at me—then at the direction again.——"This is from Anna!"—ſaid he frowning——Then its from as honeſt a ſoul—ſaid I—as any in his Majeſty's three kingdoms.——He looked as black as gunpowder at me, your honour,—and then read the letters.——"Serve him right!"—ſaid he——(I ſuppoſe, your honour, he meant his being kidnapped firſt, and killed afterward)——"let her ſtarve!——and harkee, fellow! if you trouble me any more about her and her baſtards,"——Baſtards!—ſaid I——they are as honeſtly begotten as yourſelf—(I could not help it, your honour——I liked his countenance little, and his language leſs.)—And what—ſaid I—if they were baſtards?—they could not help it, poor babes!——But if only baſtards had hard hearts, I ſhould believe your honour as vile a one as any in the kingdom!——I thought, an' pleaſe your honour, he was going to attack me, but I was ready to receive him;——indeed, your honour, I believe he ſaw I was a *ſoldier*, for I thought it my duty to defend the defenceleſs:——poor Edward is dead!—he couldn't ſtand up for himſelf!——to inſult the grave is daſtardly—but to inſult the grave of a ſoldier—and a ſon too!——I couldn't bear it,——

Deſcribe his perſon, Trim—quoth my uncle Toby.——Trim bowed.——Why, then, an' pleaſe your honour,—he has as forbidding a countenance as you would ſee in the face of a ruffian;——his cheeks worne,—his forehead cloudy and wrinkled;——his body waſted——

It is his conſcience that preys upon him, Trim—quoth my uncle Toby.—An' pleaſe your honour—replied Trim—I do not think he has one;——he looks like one of thoſe ſoldiers who doeſn't fight for the ſake of a good cauſe, your honour,—but for the plunder he expects afterward.——His hair is almoſt white——

His actions are a diſgrace to his head, Trim!—ſaid my uncle Toby.—An' pleaſe your honour—quoth Trim—he has no more feeling in his heart than a bullet.——

Then we muſt be fathers to the fatherleſs, Trim—quoth my uncle Toby.——I am ſorry you returned his fire, Trim!——it is *noble* to be a *faithful* ally,—but it is *wiſe to be a peaceable one alſo.*——

At this moment a meſſenger enter'd the room.——It was from Anna's father;—he had burſt a blood-veſſel in the violence of his paſſion, which continued after Trim had left him.——He wiſh'd to ſee Anna, and the corporal.——I called for Anna—ſaid the meſſenger, and ſhe directed me here.——Her father wiſhes to ſee her, and the ſoldier he offended.——I fear he will not be long in this world!——Advance, Trim—quoth my uncle Toby—and give him all the ſuccour you are able.——An' pleaſe your honour—ſaid Trim—I pity him now!——

Trim, though fatigued, remember'd he was going upon duty;—his knee pain'd him,—but the lightneſs of his conſcience made his ſteps eaſy!——

As Trim departed, my uncle Toby and he exchanged ſomething like a congratulatory look.——They had made overtures for peace, but were refuſed;——the enemy to ſue in turn——it was glorious!——But my *uncle Toby and Trim loved peace too ſincerely to trifle with the feelings of the enemy.*

My uncle Toby now filled another pipe.——Suſpenſe lengthened the pauſes between each whiff,—while fancy painted to his imagination, Trim entering—the olive branch and the laurel budding on his brow,——

There was ſomething of an April caſt in the countenance of my uncle Toby;—for although a ſunſhine ſet-

tied on it,—ſtill a few light clouds kept continually paſſing it:——Theſe were but thin ſhades of uncertainty croſſing hope.——

The ſun was now going down:—as the day-beem waned, my uncle Toby's impatience increaſed;—his eyes were ever and anon fixed on the lock of the door.——He roſe up—walk'd—ſat down—roſe up—went to the window;——and it was not till the ruddy light was ſunk half-way in the bowel of his ſecond pipe, that Trim returned.——

When Trim enter'd, there was ſuch an expreſſive melancholy pictur'd on his viſage,—that, had cheerfulneſs met him in her way, the ſmile had fled from her cheek, and ſhe had become the ſiſter of ſorrow!——

My uncle Toby immediately roſe from his chair——What! Trim—quoth he—in a low tone of monotonous deſpondency—"Have we loſt the day again?"——An' pleaſe your honour—replied Trim—I called for Anna, as the meſſenger directed me.——We took her and her ſweet little babes with us:——and when we reached her father's door, the firſt account we received from an old female houſe-keeper was—He was dead!——

An' pleaſe your honour, poor Anna ſunk on the threſhold.——When we recovered her—ſhe would ſee her father——ſhe flew to his bed;——the face of her father, an' pleaſe your honour, was the face of a ſtranger!——ſhe threw her arms round his neck, and wetted his cheeks with her tears.——"You cannot puſh me from you now!—ſaid ſhe, clinging to him—and turning back her head, as if ſhe fear'd being taken from him.——An' pleaſe your honour—ſhe kiſſed his cold lips, as if ſhe were ſtruck with madneſs.——

Anna will turn melancholy!—quoth my uncle Toby, preſſing his hands together.——

Conſider, your honour,—ſaid Trim—ſhe is delicate, and her misfortunes are too heavy for her.——An' pleaſe your honour, his will was lying by his ſide;——perhaps he intended to alter it in Anna's favour——but fate was againſt her.

Is ſhe unfortunate there, too, Trim?—quoth my uncle Toby——Poor Anna!

Trim—continued my uncle Toby, ſighing deeply——it is our duty—both as ſoldiers and men——to relieve the misfortunes of this poor laſs;——for ſhe has been undone by the *unfeeling cruelty* of a *father*,——and the *perfidious* and *unwarrantable treachery* of the *army*,——

My uncle Toby bluſhed at his laſt obſervation,—and Trim's cheek anſwered his.——

Wretched Anna!—thy virtues deſerved a better fate.——But my uncle Toby will act as a father to you, and to your children; and Trim will be his auxiliary.——The heavier thy ſorrows, the greater ſhall be their efforts to preſerve thee!——And if the cold unfeeling world ſhould ſlight thee,——(which thou may'ſt expect;—for fortune has trampled on thee,—and a parent given the example to defert thee!)—my uncle Toby and Trim ſhall ſoften thy diſtreſſes—by redoubling their kindneſs!——

Dear generoſity!—Gratitude ſhall walk by thy ſide,—that when thou ſlippeſt ſhe may ſupport thee;—and if the path be too rugged for thy feet, which misfortune may have robbed of their defence,——Gratitude, with a hearty willingneſs and dewy eye, (remembering the paſt)—ſhall ſtoop down;—and, taking off the ſandals from her feet,—faſten them on thine!——

HISTORY OF KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, AND TASTE, IN GREAT BRITAIN,

DURING THE COMMONWEALTH AND USURPATION OF CROMWELL.

CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 179.

THE memoirs of that plain and unaffected patriot, Edmund Ludlow, are not leſs intereſting and entertaining than Lord Clarendon's Hiſtory; and theſe as well as Whitlocke's Memorials and Thurloe's State Papers, will enable the reader to correct thoſe miſtakes into which Clarendon may have fallen, either from the want of adequate information, or through partiality to his friends.

The commonwealth of England was not deſtitute of able lawyers; and to the names of thoſe already noticed we may add thoſe of ſerjeant Maynard and ſecretary Thurloe, whoſe valuable collection of State Papers is mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

The moſt famous mathematician of the age was Wallis, Savilian profeſſor of aſtronomy at Oxford. He had a long controverſy on mathematical ſubjects with the celebrated Hobbes; but the genius of the latter was too much diſtracted with a variety of ſciences to be able to maintain a conteſt with a man, who, like Wallis, had devoted himſelf almoſt entirely to one. Dr Seth Ward, who was ſlightly mentioned in our laſt volume, flouriſhed alſo at this period as a mathematical writer and teacher; and this and every other branch of philoſophy was diligently cultivated by Wilkins; whom we had formerly occaſion to introduce in his profeſſional character as a divine. Biſhop Wilkins may be conſidered as the father and founder of the royal ſociety; for at his time commenced thoſe philoſophical conferences which terminated in the corporation of that learned body. But of this ſubject it is our intention to treat more at large in our ſucceeding volume.

The ſpirit and fanatiſm of the times was ſo hoſtile to the fine arts, that we have little to ſay of the productions of the Engliſh nation at this period, either in painting, ſtatuary, or architecture. The incomparable Inigo Jones died in 1658; and the merits of Wren was yet unknown in that line for which nature had deſtined him, though he was choſen profeſſor of aſtronomy in Greſham college, in the ſame year in which his great predeceſſor Inigo Jones terminated his mortal career.

It is ſomewhat extraordinary, that an age ſo unfavourable to the fine arts in general ſhould have produced ſome of the moſt eminent of our poets. To ſpeak of Milton in terms adequate to his commendation, would require talents in ſome meaſure congenial to his own

'Ingenium cui ſit, cui mens divinior, atque os
'Magna ſonatorum————.'

Whatever is great in conception, ſublime in fancy, or exquiſite in expreſſion, is to be found in Paradiſe Loſt. Yet we muſt reluctantly confeſs with Dr Johnſon, that the peruſal of this incomparable poem is 'rather a duty than a pleaſure.' The fault is, however, more in the ſubject than the writer. It is eſſentially deficient, as that great critic obſerves, in 'human intereſt;' and the ſenſible imagery under which the Supreme Being and the celeſtial exiſtences are delineated, ſeldom fails to diſguſt the ſerious reader, while they afford a theme of ridicule to the ſceptic or the libertine. It appears indeed a ſubject with which the human imagination ought not to have ſported; and 'the confuſion of ſpirit and matter, which prevades the whole narration of the war of heaven, fills it with incongruity.' It may be remarked, that the few texts of ſcripture, on which that part of Milton's plot is founded, are evidently moſt groſsly miſtaken by him, and have been much more ſatisfactorily explained by a learned author of the preſent age, in a

moſt

moſt ingenious 'Diſſertation on the Paſſages in St Peter and St Jude concerning the Angels that ſinned.'

Of Milton's leſſer pieces, thoſe which have moſt deſervedly attracted attention, are the Maſque of Comus, and the Allegro and Penſeroſo. The firſt of theſe is certainly deficient as a drama; but it abounds in beautiful ſentiment, in luxuriant deſcription, and the true ſpirit of poetry. The two latter are unqueſtionably the moſt perfect ſpecimens of lyric poetry in the Engliſh language.

Whatever commendation is due to Waller, is the very oppoſite to that of Milton. He is neither entitled to the praiſe of ſublime invention, nor of exuberant fancy; but he is to be admired for the purity of his taſte, and the harmony of his verſification. His ſubjects are generally trifling; but he has the happy art of rendering even trifles intereſting. His poetry was popular, becauſe his thoughts are familiar, and ſeldom beyond the range of common life. It is a kind of colloquial poetry, in which that ingenuity which is moſt pleaſing in converſation is predominant.

It is related by Dr Johnſon, that Cowley's paſſion for poetry was originally excited by Spencer's Fairy Queen, which lay in the window of his mother's apartments. 'Such are the accidents,' adds our biographer, 'which, ſometimes remembered, ſometimes forgotten, produce that particular determination of mind, and propenſity to ſome certain ſcience or employment, which is commonly called *genius*.' The propoſition, however, is extremely ill ſupported by the inſtance; for certainly no man ever was more miſtaken in the natural bent of his genius than Cowley. He was a man of ſcience and a man of letters; he was even a man of wit; but he was not a poet. There is no ſublimity in his conception, nor beauty in his expreſſion; the glow of fancy, the expanſe of thought, the fervour of enthuſiaſm, are poorly compenſated for by antitheſis and conceit; and his verſes are as deſtitute of harmony as of ſpirit. His Pindarics are without elevation, and his amatory poems without paſſion. From this general cenſure we may except a few imitations of Anacreon, which are executed with ſpirit; but to tranſlate is not to invent; and in this kind of compoſition there is more exerciſe for wit than for imagination; and pointed expreſſion only is wanted, and not ſublimity.

Sir John Denham was ſlightly noticed in our laſt volume; he was a poet during the life of his old maſter Charles I, whom he faithfully ſerved, and with whoſe family, at the expence of his fortune, he went into exile. 'At the Reſtoration, he obtained,' ſays Dr Johnſon, 'what many miſſed, the reward of his loyalty.' Yet it is probable that he was more indebted for his promotion to his companionable qualities, and his agreeable manners, than for his attachment to monarchy. Denham is characteriſed by the great critic, whom we have juſt quoted, as 'the author of a new ſpecies of compoſition, which may be termed *local poetry*; and it muſt be confeſſed, that Cooper's-hill, though the firſt attempt of the kind, ſtill maintains its rank among many excellent pieces of the ſame deſcription; and the beſt proof of our author's taſte is, that he may be conſidered as one of the firſt who refined and improved the poetry of Great Britain. His language is not obſolete, nor his verſification unharmonious even to modern ears.

To this liſt of poets we might add the incomparable Butler, the glory and diſgrace of his time,—a man whoſe genius is not leſs aſtoniſhing than the neglect which he experienced from a ſelfiſh tyrant and a profligate court. As his great work did not, however, appear till a ſucceeding period, we ſhall not at preſent enter into any further conſideration of his genius and character.

From the New Annual Regiſter.

REMARKABLE ANECDOTES AND OCCURRENCES IN THE LATE EMBASSY TO CHINA.

THE account of the late embaſſy to China, is written with great modeſty and perſpicuity, by Sir George Staunton, Bart.; accompanied by philoſophical and ingenious obſervations. To gratify public curioſity, Sir George undertook the work ſoon after he had been ſeized with a violent diſeaſe, and continued it in ſpite of the debility and enervation it had occaſioned in his frame. At a time when moſt other perſons would have thought of retiring to reſt and quiet, his ſtrong and intrepid mind purſued a taſk of labour and of difficulty that required the utmoſt exertions of intellect and ſagacity.

Sir George has partaken of "various ſcenes of many-coloured life." In early life he was a phyſician in London, and in that capacity Dr Johnſon addreſſed him a very flattering letter, to be met with in Mr Boſwell's Life of him. He afterwards ſtudied the law in the Iſland of Grenada, and became Attorney General of that Iſland. When his friend Lord Macartney went to the Eaſt Indies, he accompanied him as his Secretary, and made the peace of Seringapatam with Tippoo Sultaun; for which ſignal ſervice he now receives a handſome annuity from the Eaſt India Company. In the Iſland of Grenada he carried out the white flag to the Marquis de Bouille, who had taken that Iſland.

So various and ſo extenſive ſeem to be the talents of Sir George, that we may well ſay of him, as ſome one ſaid of the illuſtrious Marſhal Catinet to Louis XIV. "Does your Majeſty want a General or Prime Miniſter, a Chancellor or an Archbiſhop, he is fitted for each great ſituation, ſo verſatile is his genius, and ſo profound is his integrity."

Of the *domeſtic habits* of the Chineſe we are informed, that the *old perſons* of a family *live* generally with the *young*. The influence of age over youth is ſupported by the ſentiments of nature, by the habit of obedience, by the precepts of morality ingraſted in the law of the land, and by the unremitted policy of parents to that effect. They who are paſt labour, deal out the rules that they had learned to them who are riſing to manhood, or to thoſe lately arrived at it. *Plain ſentences* of *morals* are *written up* in the *common hall*, where the male branches of the family aſſemble. In almoſt every houſe is hung up a tablet of the anceſtors of the perſons then reſiding in it; references are often made in converſation to their actions; the *deſcendants* from a common ſtock *viſit the tombs* of their *forefathers* together at ſtated times: this joint care, and indeed other occaſions, connect and unite the moſt remote relations; they cannot loſe ſight of each other, and ſeldom become indifferent to each other's concerns; the child is bound to labour and to provide for his parents' maintenance and comfort, and the brother for the brother and ſiſter that are in extreme want; the failure of which duty would be followed by ſuch deteſtation, that it is not neceſſary to enforce it by poſitive law; even the moſt diſtant kinſman, reduced to miſery by accident or ill health, has a claim on his kindred for relief, manners ſtronger far than laws, and indeed inclination, produced and nurtured by intercourſe and intimacy, ſecure aſſiſtance for him; theſe habits and manners fully explain the fact, which appears extraordinary to Europeans, that no *ſpectacles* of *diſtreſs* are ſeen to excite compaſſion, and *implore the caſual charity* of individuals.

On the ſubject of the Chineſe ceremonies of religion we are told, that there is a great reſemblance between the exterior forms in the *Pagan worſhip* of their god *Fo*, and thoſe of the *Roman Catholic Church*. The Chineſe interpreter of the embaſſy, who

was

was a moſt zealous Chriſtian of that perſuaſion, and even a prieſt of the communion, ſaw with regret the Engliſh curiouſly examining the images of the Chineſe idolatry, or attending to its ceremonies, leſt they ſhould be ſtruck with the ſimilarity. Some of the miſſionaries conjectured that the Chineſe had formerly received a glimpſe of Chriſtianity from the *Neſtorians*, by the way of *Tartary*, others that *St Thomas the Apoſtle* had been amongſt them; the likeneſs is ſo ſtrong between the apparent worſhip of many of the prieſts of *Fo*, and that which is exhibited in churches of the Roman Catholic faith, that a Chineſe conveyed into one of the latter, might imagine the *votaries* he ſaw were then *adoring* the *deities of his own country*. On the altar of a *Chineſe* temple, behind a ſcreen, is frequently a repreſentation which might anſwer for that of the *Virgin Mary*, in the perſon of *Shin Moo*, or the ſacred mother, ſitting in an alcove, with a child in her arms, and rays proceeding from a circle, which are called a glory, round her head, with tapers burning conſtantly before her; the long coarſe gowns of the *Ho Shaunge*, or prieſts of *Fo*, bound with cords round the waiſt, would almoſt equally ſuit the friars of the order of St Francis; the former live, like the latter, in a ſtate of celibacy, reſide in monaſteries together, and impoſe occaſionally upon themſelves voluntary penance, and rigorous abſtinence.

(*To be continued.*)

PRESENT CONDITION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN STATES.

IN the United States of America, the ſciences may ſtill be ſaid to be but in their cradle. Three Colleges and one Univerſity, of theology, of law, and phyſic; five or ſix Academical Societies, which are but in a paralyxed ſtate; a number of very active Private Societies, inſtituted for the purpoſes of commerce, manufactures, &c.; and a proportionate number of private ſchools for the education of youth, conſtitute, at preſent, the only ſources of intellectual and moral inſtruction. Indeed the general character of the inhabitants of the American States, leads them to ſtudy rather the means of augmenting their fortunes, than to cultivate the ſciences, and to contribute, *pro patre virili*, their quota towards the progreſs and diſſemination of knowledge. The public prints, of which there is a great variety, have the ſame tendency here, as in Europe, to corrupt the public ſpirit, or to cloak the faults of an inefficient government, frequently convulſed by ephemeral factions. A long reſidence and diligent obſervation are indiſpenſibly neceſſary to develope the ſprings of action. I have devoted conſiderable attention to this ſubject, and flatter myſelf that I have ſelected a fund of materials which will not be found wholly unintereſting in a commercial and political point of view.

The laws in this country breathe a ſpirit of humanity; and the inhabitants, in general, their private intereſts out of the queſtion, may be ſaid to be well-diſpoſed. An exception, however, muſt be made with reſpect to the rich overgrown merchants, who remember, with regret, the æra of the Britiſh monarchy, and entertain a ſtrong predilection for titles and other marks of diſtinction. By far the majority are favourable to the French; and in the laſt election for a mayor, and other magiſtrates, in Philadelphia, the choice fell upon the avowed partizans of the French republic.

With reſpect to *religion*, every denomination is tolerated. This renders the inhabitants tractable and gentle, as no religious eſtabliſhment is excluſively protected by government: but, perhaps, there is hardly a Chriſtian country where leſs genuine piety

is to be met with. Young people are regular in their attendance at church, becauſe they are well aware that, without a due regard to appearances, they could obtain no advantageous ſituation, form no eligible matrimonial connections, or eſtabliſh themſelves with credit in life.

Men of advanced years frequent the church through habit, or to obtain the confidence of their reſpective ſocieties, and ſecure an influence in the direction of their temporal concerns. A few pious ſouls there are, who have no other view in their devotion than to commune with the Supreme, comfort their fellow-creatures under afflictions, and inculcate the divine precepts of morality, by actions and virtuous example, rather than by idle ceremony.

In this country no tithes nor royalties are paid. Whilſt ſubjected to the Britiſh government, the United States of America refuſed to admit the Catholics to any public office; but, ſince their emancipation from the Britiſh yoke, this unjuſt law is aboliſhed; and men of every perſuaſion are indiſcriminately admitted to a participation in all the functions of government. Catholics, of the Greek and Romiſh church, Preſbyterians, Quakers, Turks, and Jews, are all equally eligible to public ſituations, and are at liberty to adore the Supreme, according to the dictates of their conſcience. There are, likewiſe, a number of *Separatiſts* and *Seekers* in the colonies, who belong to no particular ſect, but profeſs to follow, as their ſole guide, the impulſe of conſcience, without attaching themſelves to any individual ſociety. Toleration in America is carried to an extent greater than even in France. It is but lately that a Preſbyterian church elected for their miniſter a negro from Guinea, a man of exemplary character, and of no contemptible abilities, who acquits himſelf with credit in his new vocation. I have frequently ſeen him officiate in his robes, and have heard him preach with great ſatisfaction; and I make no doubt but he will prove an uſeful acquiſition to his ſociety.

The population of the United States amounts to about five millions of inhabitants, excluſive of the weſtern ſettlements, which are well peopled, and contains, at a moderate calulation, 120,000 perſons. But it muſt be taken into conſideration, that the ſum total of inhabitants doubles every fourteen years, as has been clearly ſubſtantiated and aſcertained by exact official documents: this gives a more rapid increaſe than Franklin has ſtated.

Agriculture and *commerce* form, almoſt without exception, the principal employment of the inhabitants: and were it not that the rich merchants diſcourage, by every poſſible means, the progreſs and improvement of American manufactures, in order to monopolize the excluſive commerce with England, by which they accumulate immenſe fortunes in a very ſhort time, arts and manufactures would be in a highly flouriſhing ſtate. The ſingle branch of ſhip-building employs, in this country, ſeveral thouſands of hands. At this very moment, when France pays after the rate of 300 livres per ton for veſſels built of whole deal, and very moderate ſolidity, the American ſhipwright conſtructs his veſſels of red cedar, or oak, which wood is of a far ſuperior quality, and will laſt double the time, than the timber made uſe of in Europe; yet, notwithſtanding theſe advantages, and although the American veſſels are built upon a better and more ſolid conſtruction, they may be purchaſed at the rate of 170 livres per ton completely finiſhed, and ready for ſea. If the French Republic ſhould at any time ſtand in need of 20,000 ton, in new veſſels, the United States can furniſh them at the price above ſtated, which, in time of peace, would ſuſtain a conſiderable abatement.

The annual *exports* of the United States, according to authentic documents, exceed twenty-ſix millions of dol-

dollars, excluſive of what has not been entered at the cuſtoms. The ſpeculation in land finds employment for a great number of adventurers, ſome few of whom acquire immenſe fortunes, at the expence of the major part, who ruin themſelves.

I know of no work, publiſhed in America, deſerving of particular mention, in a grand national point of view. Their Journals are a chaotic aſſemblage of lies, where even commercial advertiſements are altered and diſfigured. Some Anglo-American authors have written eſteemed moral works; but theſe are ſo voluminous, ſo dear, and ſo little read, that they ſerve here, as in Europe, to ſupport the pomp of a library, which is viſited from a motive of curioſity, without reaping any utility from it.

The grand ſource of the riches of the Americans reſults from the fertility of their territory, the temperature of the climate, and the cheap price of land, which holds out an irreſiſtible temptation to emigrants from other countries. The traffic in land is the firſt object of attention with the monied men, who may purchaſe acres by the thouſand, at the rate of three ſols per acre. This land they afterwards ſell to ſome poor emigrant for two francs, who is frequently obliged to relinquiſh his purchaſe, for want of hands and money to cultivate it, and ſells it for twenty ſols per acre, to a new adventurer, before a ſingle plough has paſſed over it. Agriculture is, notwithſtanding, in general eſtimation; but it is only in the interior of the United States that it is purſued with proper activity. The frontiers of this vaſt empire conſiſt of a mere aſſemblage of deſerts, inhabited by a few ſtraggling, unfortunate fanatics, who ſubſiſt upon milk, potatoes, and Indian corn.

The American *manufactures*, although diſcouraged by commercial deſpotiſm, are in a ſtate of gradual, though but ſlow, improvement. Inventions, and machines for manufactoring purpoſes, are daily brought nearer to perfection, and it may, with ſtrict truth, be affirmed, that America, in this reſpect, far ſurpaſſes Europe. The truth of this aſſertion, I hope to eſtabliſh by a collection of deſigns, taken from actual pieces of mechaniſm, which I have in agitation to publiſh. At the diſtance of about three miles from Philadelphia, is a water-mill, belonging to Mr Johnſon, formed upon a very ingenious conſtruction, which, with the aſſiſtance of only two men, performs as much work as could be executed on the common principle by the united efforts of 300 perſons. Theſe machines, which ſimpliſy labour, diminiſh the expence of the commodities, ſave a multitude of hands, and multiply the manufacturer's profits, are permanent ſources of opulence and property. Franklin, Rittenhouſe, and other ingenious mechanics, have enriched the American States with an incredible variety of uſeful machines, of which Europe has not the ſmalleſt idea. I have in my poſſeſſion exact plans of a great number of them.

I have frequently been in company with Volney. Our diſcourſe generally turned upon the ſubject of our travels. I am at preſent lodged in his apartments, from whence I write this letter. He had undertaken a journey to Carolina and ſome of the ſettlements on the Ohio. I had viſited this year the northern diſtricts of the United States, Long Iſland, the ſtates of New York, Jerſey, Connecticut, and Maryland. I have entered into an agreement with Volney to viſit this ſpring the ſouthern provinces, with the weſtern ſettlements, having been appointed, in the laſt general aſſembly of the Quakers at Philadelphia, one of their deputies to viſit the Indian nations, and to eſtabliſh, if poſſible, ſome handicraft buſineſs among them, as labourers, ſmiths, carpenters, &c. in hopes of introducing ſome degree of civilization among the weſtern tribes, which we charitably

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are in the habit of diſtinguiſhing by the appellation of ſavages, though, in fact, they poſſeſs more humanity than many civilized nations. My intention is to viſit the Mohawks, the Delawares, the Shawaneſe, in one word, to glean, among the Indian tribes and aborigines of North America, all the moral and phyſical intelligence which may fall in my way. *Month. Mag.*

PROPOSALS FOR AN ACADEMY OF LYING.

I HAVE often expreſſed my aſtoniſhment, that among all the inſtitutions for polite and genteel education, no academy has yet been ſet up for the purpoſe of teaching how to deviate from truth, in the neateſt and beſt manner. Surely ſuch an inſtitution would be highly uſeful, in preventing thoſe clumſy and palpable lies, which create diſputes and quarrels, and which, being eaſy of detection, are attended with none of the beneficial conſequences which follow a neat and well covered aſſertion of this kind. Indeed, I can ſcarce form an idea of an inſtitution that would be found more univerſally uſeful, that would include a greater number of caſes of importance, or that would accommodate itſelf to the urgent wants and neceſſities of a greater number of perſons, high and low, rich and poor, fathers and children, huſbands and wives, maſters and ſervants. In a word, it would be of great uſe and importance to an immenſe proportion of "all people that on earth do dwell," eſpecially thoſe who live in civilized ſociety, for I cannot find that the ſavage life requires any very particular diſlike to truth, and hence they practiſe its oppoſite either not at all, or in a very barbarous and rude manner, and liable to inſtant detection.

But permit me, more particularly, to ſhow the advantages that would ariſe from an academy for lying. In the firſt place, then, every perſon muſt have experienced the difficulty of a firſt lie, how ſtammeringly it is pronounced, with what want of confidence and ſelf-poſſeſſion, often too with a bluſh, and ſuch heſitation as leads to immediate ſuſpicion, if not detection. Now this is really ſhocking, for a lie told in this manner is really no lie at all, becauſe it does not anſwer the purpoſes of its creation. It deceives nobody, and produces none of the effects which he who makes it, and makes it ſo unworkman-like, propoſed to himſelf. And why is it that people are allowed, eſpecially young people, to blunder on in this manner? I will tell you. It is becauſe ſome wiſe heads have ſuppoſed that lying is natural, and therefore requires no inſtruction. They might as well ſay that reading and writing are natural, or that breeches-making is natural. A man may learn to ſcribble without inſtructions, and he may make a pair of breeches without inſtructions, but who would wear them? Would they not at the firſt glance diſcover the hand of a botcher? I do not believe that lying is natural, unleſs in certain inſtances. I think I have obſerved that in ſome it is hereditary, and I'll allow that it may very readily deſcend from father to ſon. So may the gout, and yet no perſon will be ſo bold as to ſay that the gout is natural. The gout, too, is a caſe in point, in another reſpect, for although a man may give it to his child, yet if he do not at the ſame time inſtruct him in thoſe elegant luxuries by which the gout is brought to perfection, it is ten to one whether he ever exhibit more than ſlight ſymptoms of it. Some people, too, ſeem to have muſic, painting, and mathematics naturally, yet if you deny them every portion of inſtruction, their genius will be of that kind which, according to the poet, is "born to bluſh unſeen."

Lying, therefore, is not natural, or if at all natural, if natural in any degree, it cannot exiſt, and riſe to per-

fection, without inſtructions, and ſuch inſtructions are what would be afforded by the academy I propoſe to inſtitute. The younger the pupil is ſent to ſuch an academy, the more proficiency he would make. That is no more than we expect in all caſes of inſtruction. But the lectures and precepts given there might be ſuited to all ages, and I ſhould ſuppoſe it would be as eaſy to teach "grown gentlemen," to lie, as to dance, for which latter we have many academies, no doubt, of great reputation. Indeed, I can eaſily ſuppoſe that perſons ſomewhat advanced, would moſt frequently be the pupils of this academy, for children ſeldom have ſo much occaſion for the art, as thoſe who are ſetting out in life.

And this brings me, ſecondly, to obſerve the infinite variety of perſons who think lying neceſſary in order to live comfortably and profitably. I ſhall firſt inſtance a claſs which is extremely numerous, and includes men of all ranks and profeſſions, I mean politicians. Of this extenſive body, very few could exiſt without lying, and lying, too, in the moſt ingenious and truth-like manner. For proof of this I need only appeal to the political pamphlets and newſpapers of the day, written on both ſides of the queſtion, and need only aſk my readers what would be the caſe with the *arguments* of either party, were they to be founded on literal inſtead of imaginary facts. From pamphlets and newſpapers, let us deſcend to political converſation, which, however, is ſeldom much more than the echo of theſe, and we ſhall find that broad unqualified aſſertion, exaggeration and extravagance of eſtimate, are abſolutely neceſſary to ſupport the reſpective cauſes of the diſputants, that is to ſay, to embitter them againſt one another, and to keep them aſunder, the only uſes I ever could diſcover for the zeal and warmth of political converſation. For a very ingenious tract upon this ſubject, I beg leave to refer my readers to "Propoſals for printing a very curious diſcourſe entituled, The Art of Political Lying," written by Dr Jonathan Swift, and printed in his works. I differ ſomewhat from the learned author in his ideas of promoting the art of lying. I am for an *academy*; he is for a corporation. I ſhall abridge his ideas on this point, becauſe, if, approved, they will not ſupercede the utility of early education. He propoſes to unite the ſeveral ſmaller corporations of liars into one ſociety, that this ſociety ought to conſiſt of the heads of each party: that no lie is to paſs current without their approbation, they being the beſt judges of the preſent exigencies, and what ſort of lyes are demanded; that in ſuch a corporation they ought to be men of all profeſſions, that decency and probability may be obſerved as much as poſſible; that beſide the perſons abovementioned, this ſociety ought to conſiſt of the hopeful geniuſes about the town, (of which there are great plenty to be picked up in the ſeveral coffee-houſes) travellers, virtuoſos, fox-hunters, jockies, attornies, old ſeamen and ſoldiers out of the hoſpitals: to this ſociety, ſo conſtituted, ought to be committed the ſole management of lying; that in their outer room there ought always to attend ſome perſons endowed with a great ſtock of credulity, a generation that thrives mightily in this ſoil and climate: he thinks a ſufficient number of them may be picked up any where about the Exchange; theſe are to circulate what the other coin, for no man ſpreads a lie with ſo good a grace as he who believes it; that the rule of the ſociety be to invent a lie, or ſometimes two, for every day, &c. &c. So much for the plan of the Dean of St Patrick's, which may be well to *follow*, but cannot in the nature of things precede the academy I propoſe.

Next to politicians, we have another very conſiderable claſs of men who

who do not conſider truth as at all incumbent, I mean, rivals and enemies of whatſoever deſcription, profeſſion, calling, or rank. Now to them, an academy which ſhould teach the moſt feaſible and credible lies, would be of more importance than to any other claſs of men (although, no queſtion, very important to all) becauſe rivals and enemies always lie under the *ſuſpicion* of not adhering to truth, and it is a ſuſpicion which they convert into a certainty, when they venture upon falſehoods without having been thoroughly initiated in the whole art and myſtery of lying. No man thinks himſelf bound to ſpeak truth of his enemy or his rival. But, granting this to be the caſe, to what purpoſe is it that he leaves truth, unleſs he has been regularly bred to lying. A man ought not to leave one trade unleſs he has a certain proſpect of ſucceeding in another, far leſs ought he to pretend to lie, when his lies are of ſuch an ill ſhapen, clumſy manufacture as to deceive nobody, when ſo full of holes and ſeams as to diſcover the naked truth at once. And how is this to be avoided, but by a regular courſe of inſtructions?

This claſs, namely, rivals and enemies, includes ſo very great a proportion of men of all trades and callings, that I have not thought it neceſſary to divide them into artiſts, mechanics, authors, ſhopkeepers and innkeepers. The remarks I have to offer will ſuit them all generally. And let me aſk then why it is that they find lying ſo unprofitable, ſo often detected, and therefore ſo often uſeleſs? It proceeds from the error above mentioned, that people truſt to their natural genius, without conſidering that lying is artificial; it is an art and myſtery, not to be acquired without much education, and cloſe thinking. It is not to be taken up, like certain trades, without ſerving an apprenticeſhip, or almoſt any previous inſtruction. It does not reſemble truth in the leaſt. Truth is eaſy and natural, and requires no kind of preparation or forethought. This any perſon may be ſenſible of, who will but make the experiment for a few days. One advantage, and a very great one it has over lying, is, that it does not require one twentieth part of the *memory* requiſite to a thorough-bred liar. Now as memory is a faculty which may be affected by accidents, and is no more in our power to preſerve, than ſeeing, or hearing, ſome ſticklers for truth have uſed this as an argument in its favour. But it is not my purpoſe to defend truth.

I have now advanced ſome inducements in favour of a regular academy, for teaching all manner of lies. I have ſhown the neceſſity of it to ſome very numerous claſſes of men, and I might without riſk or fear, mention many others. Some may perhaps object to the inſtitution on the ſcore of its extent, and conſequently of its expence. Extenſive it undoubtedly would be; ſeveral academies would be wanted in London alone, and every town in the kingdom, would require at leaſt one. But in calculating the expence, we are to obſerve that it is not to be meaſured by the expence attending other academies, or the two univerſities; and this for many reaſons. In the firſt place, there would be no occaſion for the ſame length of attendance. Some inſtruction, I do hold as abſolutely neceſſary, to qualify a man to lie with a good grace; but I have not ſaid that it would require a very great length of time. Many hundreds have been taught to lie in a much ſhorter ſpace than they were taught to read Latin, or ſolve a problem in Euclid. And, ſecondly, ſhould the inſtitution of academies expreſsly for this purpoſe be thought inconvenient, it might be added as a branch of the education commonly given in ſchools and univerſities; and, this, upon maturer reflection, might be done to great advantage; the boys would not complain of this additional inſtruction, becauſe it would

would enable them to purſue their other ſtudies with better effect, and by the time they had learned to deceive both their maſter and parents, they might be conſidered as having finiſhed their education, and being fit to go abroad into polite countries, or rove at home in genteel companies. I am not certain that ſome private inſtructions are not at this moment given in ſchools; for I have known ſome youths acquire there a proficiency in the art, which I could not otherwiſe account for, and to which their proficiency in other branches of learning bore no adequate proportion. The additional expence, therefore, would be trifling, and were it even more, I think no perſon who ſets a value upon lying, would grudge to be made maſter of the art almoſt at any expence. The ſucceſs of it muſt entirely depend on the ſkill employed, and that ſkill might ſurely be reduced to a ſyſtem of inſtructions. Men ought not to complain of the expence of the theory, when they ſo often ſubject themſelves to pay for the practice.

Whoever conſiders how univerſal the practice of departing from truth is, will not reproach me for propoſing a ſcheme of ſo great national utility, as I have now advanced. It may be liable to objections? I do not aſſume the merit of an inventor on this occaſion. I am only for improving the inventions of others, and I hope I ſhall eſcape the cenſure poured upon thoſe who are for overturning ancient ſyſtems, in order to advance new and unheard-of experiments. It may be objected, that lying, with all the advantages of my intended academy, will yet in many caſes be difficult and dangerous, and that the contrary practice is by much the eaſieſt. Thoſe who are ſwayed by ſuch an argument as this, are heartily welcome to all the advantages they may derive from it. Men who conſult their eaſe and convenience only, and intereſted men, that is, men who are ever attentive to their true intereſts, will prefer ſuch an argument; but the caſe will be otherwiſe with the claſſes of perſons whom I have mentioned in this letter, and who have too much courage and reſolution to be deterred from any practice, merely becauſe it happens not to be quite ſo eaſy as ſome others practice. Men who conſult their eaſe, may ſtill adhere to truth, but thoſe who love buſtle, ſtorms and tempeſts, and wonderful feats of ingenuity, hair-breadth eſcapes, and caſualties, will be happy to have an academy eſtabliſhed upon the plan I propoſed, and will not be deterred by the apprehenſions of timid men. I am, &c. U.

REMARKABLE ANECDOTE OF A DOG.

A few days before the fall of Robeſpierre a Revolutionary Tribunal in one of the departments of the North of France condemned to death M. des R****, an ancient Magiſtrate, and a moſt eſtimable man, *guilty*, at fifty leagues from Paris, of a conſpiracy, which had not exiſted at St Lazare. M. des R.* had a water Spaniel, of ten or twelve years old, of the ſmall breed, which had been brought up by him, and had never quitted him. Des R**** in priſon ſaw his family diſperſed by a ſyſtem of terror;—ſome had taken flight; others, themſelves arreſted, were carried into diſtant goals; his domeſtics were diſmiſſed; his houſe was buried in the ſolitude of the ſeals; his friends either abandoned him, or concealed themſelves; every thing in the world was ſilent to him, except his Dog. This faithful animal had been refuſed admittance into the priſon. He had returned to his maſter's houſe, and found it ſhut. He took refuge with a neighbour, who received him; but that poſterity may judge ſoundly of the times in which we have exiſted, it muſt be added, that this man received him trembling, in ſecret, and dreading leſt his humanity for an animal ſhould conduct him

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to the ſcaffold. Every day at the ſame hour, the Dog left the houſe, and went to the door of the priſon. He was refuſed admittance, but he conſtantly paſſed an hour before it, and then returned. His fidelity at length won upon the porter, and he was one day allowed to enter. The Dog ſaw his maſter. It was difficult to ſeparate them; but the goaler carried him away, and the Dog returned to his retreat. He came back the the next morning, and every day; and once each day he was admitted. He licked the hand of his friend, looked at him, licked his hand again, and went away of himſelf.

When the day of ſentence arrived, notwithſtanding the crowd, notwithſtanding the guard, he penetrated into the hall, and crouched himſelf between the legs of the unhappy man, whom he was about to loſe for ever. The judges condemned the man; and, may my tears be pardoned for the expreſſion, which eſcapes from them, they condemned him in preſence of his Dog. They reconducted him to the priſon, and the Dog, for that time, did not quit the door. The fatal hour arrives; the priſon opens; the unfortunate man paſſes out; it is the Dog that receives him at the threſhold. He clings upon his hand. Alas! that hand will never more be ſpread upon thy careſſing head! He follows him, the axe falls, the maſter dies, but the tenderneſs of the Dog cannot ceaſe. The body is carried away, he walks at its ſide; the earth receives it, he lays himſelf upon the grave.

There he paſſed the firſt night, the next day, the ſecond night. The neighbour, in the mean time, unhappy at not ſeeing him, riſks himſelf, ſearching for the Dog, gueſſes for the extent of his fidelity the aſylum he has choſen, finds him, careſſes him, brings him back, and makes him eat. An hour afterwards, the Dog eſcaped, and regained his favourite place. Three months paſſed away, each morning of which he came to ſeek his food, and then returned to the aſhes of his maſter; but each day he was more ſad, more meagre, more languiſhing, and it was plain that he was gradually reaching his end. They endeavoured, by chaining him up to wean him; but you cannot triumph over Nature! He broke, or bit through his bonds; eſcaped; returned to the grave, and never quitted it more. It was in vain that they endeavoured to bring him back. They carried him food, but he ate no longer. For four-and-twenty hours he was ſeen employing his weakened limbs in digging up the earth that ſeparated him from the remains of the man he had ſo much loved. Paſſion gave him ſtrength, and he gradually approached the body; his labours of affection then vehemently increaſed; his efforts became convulſive; he ſhrieked in his ſtruggles; his faithful heart gave way, and he breathed out his laſt gaſp, as if knew that he found his maſter!

ACCOUNT OF SOME OF THE MOST REMARKABLE PAINTINGS IN THE NETHERLANDS.

BY SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS.

IN the ſacriſty of the cathedral at Bruges is a picture, painted by Jean Van Eyck, of the Virgin and Child, with St George, and other Saints; one of thoſe figures, which is dreſſed in white, and which undoubtedly was taken from the life according to the cuſtom of the painters of thoſe times, has great character of nature, and is very minutely finiſhed, though the painter was ſixty-ſix years old when it was done; for the date on it is 1436. This picture claims perhaps more attention from its being painted by a man who has been ſaid to be the firſt inventor of the art of painting in oil, than from any intrinſic merit in the work itſelf. However, his claim to this invention,

vention, which was firſt attributed to him by Vaſari, and from his authority propagated in the world, has been juſtly diſputed by the learned antiquarian Mr Raſpe, who has proved, beyond all contradiction, that this art was invented and practiſed many ages before Van Eyck was born.

The art is here in its infancy; but ſtill having the appearance of a faithful repreſentation of individual nature it does not fail to pleaſe. To a certain degree the painter has accompliſhed his purpoſe, which is more than can be ſaid of two heads by Rubens, of St Peter and St Paul, in the ſame ſacriſty, which are neither a good repreſentation of individual or general nature: however each of theſe heads is inſhrined in a rich tabernacle of ſilver, locked up, and ſhewn only on high feſtivals. The great reputation which Rubens has ſo juſtly acquired, is here extended to pictures ſlightly painted, and which perhaps he himſelf would be aſhamed to acknowledge as his; they appear to have nothing to recommend them but a tint of colour and lightneſs of pencil; a merit which indeed Rubens ſeldom wanted: they are inſipid, without grace, dignity, or character of any kind.

St Walburge.—Antwerp.

The great altar of the Choir is the firſt public work which Rubens executed after he returned from Italy. In the centre is Chriſt nailed to the Croſs with a number of figures exerting themſelves in different attitudes to raiſe it. One of the figures appears flushed, all the blood riſing into his face from his violent efforts; others in intricate attitudes, which, at the ſame time that they ſhew the great energy with which the buſineſs is done, give that opportunity which painters deſire, of encountering the difficulties of the art, in fore-ſhortening, and in repreſenting momentary actions. This ſubject, which was probably of his own chooſing, gave him an admirable opportunity of exhibiting his various abilities to his countrymen; and it is certainly one of his beſt and moſt animated compoſitions.

The buſtle, which is in every part of the picture, makes a fine contraſt to the character of reſignation in the crucified Saviour. The ſway of the body of Chriſt is extremely well imagined. The taſte of the form in the Chriſt, as well as in the other figures, muſt be acknowledged to be a little inclinable to the heavy; but it has a noble, free, and flowing outline. The invention of throwing the Croſs obliquely from one corner of the picture to the other, is finely conceived; ſomething in the manner of Tintoret: it gives a new and uncommon air to his ſubject, and we may juſtly add, that it is uncommonly beautiful. The contraſt of the body with the legs is admirable, and not overdone.

The doors are a continuation of the ſubject. That on the right has a group of women and children, who appear to feel the greateſt emotion and horror at the ſight: the Virgin and St John, who are behind, appear very properly with more reſignation. On the other door are the officers on horſeback; attending behind them are the two thieves, whom the executioners are nailing to the Croſs.

It is difficult to imagine a ſubject better adapted for a painter to exhibit his art of compoſition than the preſent; at leaſt Rubens has had the ſkill to make it ſerve, in an eminent degree, for that purpoſe. In the naked figures of the Chriſt, and of the executioners, he had ample room to ſhew his knowledge of the anatomy of the human body in different characters. There are likewiſe women of different ages, which is always conſidered as a neceſſary part of every compoſition, in order to produce variety: there are, beſides, children and horſemen; and to have the whole range of variety, he has even added a dog, which he has introduced in an animated attitude, with his mouth open, as if panting;

admirably

admirably well painted. His animals are always to be admired: the horſes here are perfect in their kind, of a noble character, animated to the higheſt degree. Rubens, conſcious of his powers, in painting horſes, introduced them in his pictures as often as he could. This part of the work, where the horſes are repreſented, is by far the beſt in regard to colouring; it has a freſhneſs which the other two pictures want: but thoſe appear to have ſuffered by the ſun. This picture of the horſemen is ſituated on the ſouth-eaſt ſide, whereas the others, being eaſt and ſouth-eaſt, are more expoſed: however, at preſent there is no longer danger, the fathers having taken the precaution to have a fixed window-blind, which the rays of the ſun cannot penetrate.

The central picture, as well as that of the group of women, does not, for whatever reaſon, ſtand ſo high for colour as every other excellence. There is a dryneſs in the tint; a yellow okery colour predominates over the whole; it has too much the appearance of a yellow chalk-drawing. I mean only to compare Rubens with himſelf; they might be thought excellent even in this reſpect, were they the work of almoſt any other painter. The fleſh, as well as the reſt of the picture, ſeems to want grey tints, which is not a general defect of Rubens; on the contrary, his mezzotints are often too grey.

The blue drapery, about the middle of the figure at the bottom of the Croſs, and the grey colour of ſome armour, are nearly all the cold colours in the picture; which are certainly not enough to qualify ſo large a ſpace of warm colours. The principle maſs of light is on the Chriſt's body; but in order to enlarge it, and improve its ſhape, a ſtrong light comes on the ſhoulder of the figure with a bald head: the form of this ſhoulder is ſomewhat defective; it appears too round.

Upon the whole this picture muſt be conſidered as one of Ruben's principal works, and that appearance of heavineſs which it has, when ſeen near, entirely vaniſhes when the picture is viewed from the body of the church, to which you deſcend from the choir by twenty ſtairs.

(*To be continued.*)

DOUBTS REGARDING THE REMARKABLE PHENOMINON OF TOADS BEING FOUND IN STONES.

SIR,

THE reciprocal deſire to communicate and to liſten to extraordinary narrations, eſpecially ſuch as appear to contradict the uſual courſe of nature, is every where prevalent among mankind. Tales of ghoſts and witches, once the fruitful ſource of the marvellous, have now ceaſed to affect even the vulgar. But ſingular deviations from what we are accuſtomed to ſee, are ſtill received with peculiar avidity. To the operation of this principle, I am inclined to refer the various narratives with which you have been favoured by ſeveral correſpondents, of toads found ſhut up in ſolid rocks of ſlate, of freeſtone, and even of marble; of which laſt there is a ſpecimen in the Marquis of Rockingham's ſeat in Yorkſhire.

I have obſerved a ſtriking peculiarity in all the inſtances brought forward in your Magazine. No one is given by an eye witneſs of the fact, but always on the authority of ſome perſon of undoubted veracity, that is, in whom the narrator had implicit belief. I need hardly obſerve, ſir, how much in this reſpect theſe ſtories reſemble the tales of ghoſts, which are always given at ſecond hand, and we can never ſee the perſon, who, himſelf, ſaw the ghoſt. Now, ſir, as to me it is a real miracle, that an animal which has lungs, and conſequently requires air; that has a ſtomach, and organs of digeſtion, and therefore ſtands in

need of food; that has bulk and dimenſions, and therefore occupies ſpace; ſhould be found in the centre of a ſolid rock, where there is neither air, food, nor vacancy—for I think no man will be hardy enough to aſſert that a toad can live during the centuries required to form ſtone. Surely it is more probable that all theſe people ſhould be miſtaken, than that the courſe of nature ſhould be ſo unaccountably perverted.

The following partial ſolution is given of the above; perhaps ſome of our readers will be able to throw more light on this curious ſubject.

I am glad to have it in my power to add ſomething towards eſtabliſhing the truth of this unaccountable phenomenon; with the advantage of relating only what fell under my own immediate obſervation.

I was led to make an experiment on a toad, by the peruſal of one of Dr Franklin's eſſays; where he aſſerts (though only from report) that they will live for ages in ſolid rock; and alſo aſſures us of a fact equally aſtoniſhing, and out of the common courſe of nature: that flies, corked up in wine in the Weſt-Indies, &c. may frequently be reſtored to life in England, by expoſing them to the heat of the ſun's beams. This he tried himſelf, and has eſtabliſhed beyond any doubt. Dr Franklin, on this occaſion, expreſſes himſelf rather romantically; he wiſhes he, and a few choice friends, could in the ſame manner be preſerved in a caſk of Madeira, and revived at the end of a century, to ſee how his dear country America flouriſhed.

I caught a large toad, which I confined in a glaſs tumbler, covered at the top with a large piece of cork, cloſed with ſealing wax, ſo effectually, that no freſh air could be admitted, nor any thing poſſibly eſcape. In this ſtate I left it in my room, and in a few hours, returning, found the glaſs, (which I had corked too tight) broken, and the animal eſcaped through the window, and fallen on the pavement nearly fourteen feet, which muſt have hurt it, and very probably haſtened its death.

I committed it once more to a ſimilar confinement, with more caution, and in this ſtate actually kept it alive *ſix months*. As I had no thoughts of publiſhing this circumſtance at that time, I did not make ſo many obſervations as I otherwiſe ſhould have done; but frequently remarked in the tumbler ſmall black ſubſtances, reſembling in ſhape little animals; and, as theſe alternately appeared and diſappeared, the toad muſt have ſwallowed them; ſo that it is poſſible it poſſeſſes the property of the ruminating animals, in a much greater degree; for the throat had a conſtant motion, as if in the act of maſtication; yet, what is rather extraordinary, all the time I kept it, I never once ſaw its mouth open; and it ſeemed as ſtrong a few days before it died as at firſt; ſo that I attribute its death rather to the fall, than to confinement, or want of food. The ſides of the glaſs were ſo frequently obſcured by a dark moiſture, that I could ſcarcely diſcern the animal through them.

Your correſpondent, A. P. B. doubts, very naturally, that a creature furniſhed with lungs ſhould exiſt when deprived of air, but what is here related, in my opinion, is a proof to the contrary; as the very ſmall quantity in the glaſs, at the time of cloſing it up, would be vitiated and unfit for reſpiration in a few minutes; and I find no difficulty in admitting, that if this animal can (in direct contradiction to all the known laws of animated nature) exiſt for ſix months, deprived of air, food, or water, it may, for any argument we can produce to the contrary, ſurvive centuries in ſimilar circumſtances; nor ſhould I be at all ſurpriſed, if it was found to live in a vacuo for a conſiderable time; an experiment, however, I have no inclination to try. I rather think what I have already done

done needs some apology, and shall add a few words in my own justification, as it may appear, that in this experiment I have permitted curiosity to get the better of humanity.

I have read, with abhorence, the cruel experiments of Fontana and some others, where thousands of harmless creatures, under the pretext of being serviceable to mankind, were put to death, in the most shocking and prolonged tortures: but in the present instance, I felt assured, that if the toad could live one day without fresh air, it must exist by means we are unacquainted with, and without pain or effort. Indeed, had it suffered visibly from a few minutes confinement, which I naturally expected, I should certainly have liberated it, and pursued the trial no farther; but on the contrary, it seemed so perfectly at ease, that I fully expected it would have survived me, and the present generation. I beg leave to subscribe myself,

Sir, your's most respectfully,

EGERTON SMITH.

Month. Mag.

REMARKS ON THE GERMAN CHARACTER,

AND ON SOME EMINENT GERMAN AUTHORS.

THE works of German authors of genius begin to be pretty generally read with delight in this country; yet we fail not to remark in them a wild extravagance of fancy, and a morbid irritability of feeling, which we cannot easily suppose to be copied from nature. The feverish pride, the wild, maddening love, the imagination extracting from every incident and appearance, new means of sorrow, make the Werter of Goethe, appear almost a being different in genius from those which romance and real life present to us in Britain. Shiller is equally accounted to have, in his fine dramas, overleaped the bounds of nature. Charles Moor, Fiesco, with the young hero and heroine of his "*Cabel and Love*," appear to us so extravagant in all their fancies and all their distresses, that we should not, probably, endure with patience, their representation upon our stage.

But, some facts have fallen within my knowledge, which incline me to believe, that these characters must seem to the Germans, for whom they were written, to be sufficiently within the range of the probabilities of ordinary life. I have had occasion to be acquainted with several gentlemen from Germany, who have visited this country. I think that I have observed in them all, *that generic character*, of which "Werter," and others imagined by Schiller, are but subordinate species. They were men of virtue and learning, of elegant manners, of a certain generosity of nature, fitted to win affection, and to command esteem. But their imaginations were uncommonly fervid and romantic; their feelings were pregnant with excessive sensibility; they were, in their tempers, jealous of the respect and attentions which they thought their due, even to a degree that it was impossible to satisfy; these seemed to hang about them a wayward sicklineſs of spirit, unfitting them for the sober and uniform business of common life. In one of the early volumes of the old "*Annual Register*," there is an affecting account of the trial, condemnation, and execution of a youth, named Stirn, for the murder of a Mr Matthew, which seems to confirm, in a remarkable manner, this idea of mine. Stirn was a German youth, of extraordinary and elegant accomplishments, who had come into England to seek a situation, in which his qualifications might make his fortune. With difficulty he obtained the employment of an usher in a boarding-school. His integrity, the elegance and accuracy of his knowledge, with his assiduity in teaching, made his assistance exceedingly valuable to the master of the school; while, on the other hand

the incredible jealousy of his temper rendered him exceſſively troubleſome, as an inmate in the family. Ere he had been long here, he became acquainted with a Mr Matthew, by whom he was invited, with offers of reſpectful treatment and a liberal ſalary, to take up his reſidence in his family, for the purpoſe of inſtructing his wife and daughter in muſic, and Mr Matthew himſelf in the Greek and Roman claſſics. With Mr Matthew he had not long reſided, when he began to fancy, that mockery and inſults were offered to him, which had no exiſtence, ſave in his own diſtempered imagination. He became furiouſly querulous; and reciprocal ill-humour was naturally excited in the minds of Mr Matthew and family. Frequent explanations made Stirn, from time to time, curſe the gloominеſs of his own temper, intreat pardon for his ſuſpicions, and abjure them in the deepeſt anguiſh of heart. Nevertheleſs were theſe ſuſpicions ſtill renewed on the very next moment, and ſtill exaſperated beyond their former rage. Matthew became at length no leſs unjuſt than Stirn; in the madneſs of reſentment, he accuſed the youth of attempting to ſeduce the affections of his wife, and of filching ſome articles of his property; then thruſt him contemptuouſly out of doors. Stirn utterly incapable of theſe crimes, or indeed of any baſe and mean act, was driven, by this treatment, to the laſt frenzy of deſpair. He regarded himſelf as contaminated and debaſed beyond the poſſibility of reſtoration to honour, by the very circumſtance of any perſon's having dared to name ſuch crimes in the ſame breath with his name. Branded as a thief, and as a ſeducer driven ignominiouſly out of doors; how ſhould he continue longer in England? how return to meet the eyes of his friends in Germany? No; thus vile, he could not endure to live: nor ſhould the author of his woes ſurvive the wrongs which he had done him? Having ſolicited a meeting with Mr Matthew, in the preſence of ſome common friends; the unfortunate youth ſeized an opportunity of ſhooting him through the head; and was, with difficulty, prevented from conſummating the ſame violence upon himſelf. He was then ſeized, conveyed to priſon, brought to trial, condemned to death. I do not certainly remember, whether he did not, by taking poiſon, withdraw himſelf from the ignominy of a public execution. I think, upon recollection, that before he reſolved to aſſaſſinate Matthew, he had, in vain, called him out to ſingle combat. Beſides, if I miſtake not, there is not a little in thoſe diſtinctions of rank, and thoſe ſubdiviſions of dominion which are eſtabliſhed in Germany, that tends to foment this irritability of imagination and temper. The pride of birth and rank ſtill reigns there, in its full vigour, infeſts all the ſcenes of common life, and continually diſturbs the pleaſures of ſocial intercourſe. There are in Germany, a very great multitude of poor nobility, who have nothing but the pride and pretenſions of high birth, the education, the manners, and the wants of gentlemen; and who are obliged to ſeek their fortune in the world, amid difficulties with which it often happens that their pride can ill brook to contend. The intercourſe too, among the inhabitants of ſo many different principalities and ſtates, is neceſſarily carried on with a punctiliouſneſs and jealouſy, which are not ſo vigilantly exerciſed in the intercourſe of perſons who are, all alike, ſubjects of the ſame great kingdom.

If I err not in my inference from theſe facts and conſiderations, Schiller and Goethe, and the German writers of taſte and fancy in general, are, by it, in a great meaſure vindicated from that charge of extravagance, which Engliſh critics have too haſtily urged againſt them. What would be with us extravagance, is with them but nature. Characters not very diſſimilar to theſe of Moor and Werter are not unfrequent

unfrequent in Germany. It is from the ſtate of human ſociety in that country, that the wild, terrific pathos and ſublimity of the German works of genius, take their origin. To thoſe facts and characters which I have above cited in explaining my opinion, may be added, what the account of his life by Tiſſot furniſhes, concerning the late Dr Zimmerman.

R. H.

AN ACCOUNT OF SOME CURIOUS EXPERIMENTS ON COLOURED SHADOWS.*

SINCE my laſt letter, being employed in the proſecution of my experiments upon light, I was ſtruck with a very beautiful, and what to me appeared to be a new appearance. Deſirous of comparing the intenſity of the light of a clear ſky by day with that of a common wax candle, I darkened my room, and letting the day-light from the north, coming through a hole near the top of the window-ſhutter, fall at an angle of about 70° upon a ſheet of very fine white paper, I placed a burning wax candle in ſuch a poſition that its rays fell upon the ſame paper, and, as near as I could gueſs, in the line of reflection of the rays of day-light from without; when, interpoſing a cylinder of wood, about half an inch in diameter, before the centre of the paper, and at the diſtance of about two inches from its ſurface, I was much ſurpriſed to find that the two ſhadows projected by the cylinder upon the paper, inſtead of being merely ſhades without colour, as I expected, the one of them, that which, correſponding with the beam of day-light, was illuminated by the candle, was yellow; while the other, correſponding to the light of the candle, and conſequently illuminated by the light of the heavens, was of the moſt beautiful blue that it is poſſible to imagine.—This appearance, which was not only unexpected, but was really in itſelf in the higheſt degree ſtriking and beautiful, I found upon repeated trials, and after varying the experiment in every way I could think of, to be ſo perfectly permanent, that it is abſolutely impoſſible to produce two ſhadows at the ſame time, from the ſame body, the one anſwering to a beam of day-light, and the other to the light of a candle or lamp, without theſe ſhadows being coloured, the one yellow, and the other blue.

The experiment may very eaſily be made at any time by day, and almoſt in any place, and even by a perſon not in the leaſt degree verſed in experimental reſearches. Nothing more is neceſſary for that purpoſe than to take a burning candle into a darkened room, in the day-time, and open one of the window-ſhutters a little, about half or three-quarters of an inch for inſtance; when, the candle being placed upon a table or ſtand, or given to an aſſiſtant to hold, in ſuch a ſituation that the rays from the candle may meet thoſe of day-light from without at an angle of 40° at the ſurface of a ſheet of white paper held in a proper poſition to receive them, any ſolid opake body, a cylinder, or even a finger, held before the paper, at the diſtance of two or three inches, will project two ſhadows upon the paper, the one blue and the other yelow.

If the candle be brought nearer to the paper, the blue ſhadow will become of a deeper hue, and the yellow ſhadow will gradualy grow fainter; but if it be removed farther off, the yellow ſhadow will become of a deeper colour, and the blue ſhadow become fainter; and the candle remaining ſtationary in the ſame place, the ſame varieties in the ſtrength of the tints of the coloured ſhadows may be produced

* Contained in a letter from the celebrated Sir Benjamin Thompſon, Count of Rumford, to Sir Joſeph Banks; inſerted in the Philoſophical Tranſactions.

duced merely by opening the window-ſhutter a little more or leſs, and rendering the illumination of the paper, by the light from without, ſtronger or weaker.

By either of theſe means, the coloured ſhadows may be made to paſs through all the gradations of ſhade, from the deepeſt to the lighteſt, and *vice verſâ*; and it is not a little amuſing to ſee ſhadows thus glowing with all the brilliancy of the pureſt and moſt intenſe priſmatic colours, then paſſing ſuddenly through all the varieties of ſhade, preſerving in all the moſt perfect purity of tint, growing ſtronger and fainter, and vaniſhing and returning, at command.

With reſpect to the cauſes of the colours of theſe ſhadows, there is no doubt but they ariſe from the different qualities of the light by which they are illuminated; but how they are produced, does not appear to me ſo evident. That the ſhadow correſponding to the beam of day-light which is illuminated by the yellow light of a candle, ſhould be of a yellowiſh hue, is not ſurpriſing; but why is the ſhadow correſponding to the light of the candle, and which is illuminated by no other light than the apparently white light of the heavens, blue? I at firſt thought that it might ariſe from the blueneſs of the ſky; but finding that the broad day-light reflected from the roof of a neighbouring houſe, covered with the whiteſt new-fallen ſnow, produced the ſame blue colour, and, if poſſible, of a ſtill more beautiful tint, I was obliged to abandon that opinion.

To aſcertain, with ſome degree of preciſion, the real colour of a light emitted by a candle, I placed a lighted wax-candle, well ſnuffed, in the open air, at mid-day, at a time when the ground was deeply covered with new-fallen ſnow, and the heavens were overſpread with white clouds; when the flame of the candle, far from being white, as it appears to be when viewed by night, was evidently of a very decided yellow colour, not even approaching to whiteneſs. The flame of an Argand's lamp, expoſed at the ſame time in the open air, appeared to be of the ſame yellow hue.

But the moſt ſtriking manner of ſhowing the yellow hue of the light emitted by lamps and candles, is by expoſing them in the direct rays of a bright meridian ſun. In that ſituation, the flame of an Argand's lamp, burning with its greateſt brilliancy, appears in the form of a dead yellow ſemi-tranſparent ſmoke. How tranſcendently pure and inconceivably bright the rays of the ſun are, when compared to the light of any of our artificial illuminators, may be gathered from the reſult of this experiment.

It appearing to be very probable that the difference in the whiteneſs of the two kinds of light which were the ſubjects of the foregoing experiments, might ſomehow or other be the occaſion of the different colours of the ſhadows, I attempted to produce the ſame effects by employing two artificial lights of different colours; and in this I ſucceeded completely.

In a room previouſly darkened, the light from two burning wax-candles being made to fall upon the white paper, at a proper angle, in order to form two diſtinct ſhadows of the cylinder, theſe ſhadows are found not to be in the leaſt coloured: but upon interpoſing a pane of yellow glaſs, approaching to a faint orange colour, before one of the candles, one of the ſhadows immediately became yellow, and the other blue. When two Argand's lamps were made uſe of, inſtead of the candles, the reſult was the ſame; the ſhadows were conſtantly and very deeply coloured, the one yellow, approaching to orange, and the other blue, approaching to green. I imagined that the greeniſh caſt of this blue colour was owing either to the want of whiteneſs of the due light, or to the

orange

orange hue of the other, which it acquired from the glaſs.

When equal panes of the ſame yellow glaſs were interpoſed before both the lights, the white paper took an orange hue; but the ſhadows were, to all appearance, without the leaſt tinge of colour; but two panes of the yellow glaſs being afterward interpoſed before one of the lights, while only one pane remained before the other, the colours of the ſhadows immediately returned.

The reſult of theſe experiments having confirmed my ſuſpicions that the colours of the ſhadows aroſe from the different degrees of whiteneſs of the two lights, I now endeavoured, by bringing day-light to be of the ſame yellow tinge with candle-light, by the interpoſition of ſheets of coloured glaſs, to prevent the ſhadows being coloured when day-light and candle-light were together the ſubjects of the experiment; and in this I ſucceeded. I was even able to reverſe the colours of the ſhadows, by cauſing the day-light to be of a deeper yellow than the candle-light.

In the courſe of theſe experiments, I obſerved that different ſhades of yellow given to the day-light produced very different and often quite unexpected effects: thus one ſheet of the yellow glaſs interpoſed before the beam of day-light, changed the yellow ſhadow to a lively violet colour, and the blue ſhadow to a light green, two ſheets of the ſame glaſs nearly deſtroyed the colours of both the ſhadows, and three ſheets changed the ſhadow, which was originally yellow, to blue; and that which was blue to a purpliſh colour.

When the beam of day-light was made to paſs through a ſheet of blue glaſs, the colours of the ſhadows, the yellow as well as the blue, were improved, and rendered in the higheſt degree clear and brilliant; but when the blue glaſs was placed before the candle, the colours of the ſhadows were very much impaired.

In order to ſee what would be the conſequence of rendering the candle-light of a ſtill deeper yellow, I interpoſed before it a ſheet of yellow, or rather orange-coloured glaſs; when a very unexpected and moſt beautiful appearance took place. The colour of the yellow ſhadow was changed to orange, the blue ſhadow remained unchanged, and the whole ſurface of the paper appeared to be tinged of a moſt beautiful violet colour, approaching to a light crimſon or pink; almoſt exactly the ſame hue as I have often obſerved the diſtant ſnowy-mountains and valleys of the Alps to take about ſun-ſet. It is not more than probable that this hue is in both caſes produced by nearly the ſame combinations of coloured light? In the one caſe it is the white ſnow illuminated at the ſame time by the pureſt light of the heavens, and by the deep yellow rays from the weſt; and in the other it is the white paper illuminated by broad day-light, and by the rays from a burning candle, rendered ſtill more yellow by being tranſmitted through the yellow glaſs. The beautiful violet colour which ſpreads itſelf over the ſurface of the paper will appear to the greateſt advantage if the pane of orange-coloured glaſs be held in ſuch a manner before the candle, that only a part of the paper, half of it, for inſtance, be affected by it, the other half remaining white.

To make theſe experiments with more convenience, the paper, which may be about eight or ten inches ſquare, ſhould be paſted or glued down upon a flat piece of board, furniſhed with a ball and ſocket upon the hinder ſide of it, and mounted upon a ſtand, and the cylinder ſhould be faſtened to a ſmall arm of wood or metal, projecting forward from the bottom of the board for that purpoſe.

A ſmall ſtand, capable of being made

made higher or lower, as the occaſion requires, ſhould likewiſe be provided for ſupporting the candle; and if the board with the paper faſtened upon it be ſurrounded with a broad black frame, the experiments will be ſo much the more ſtriking and beautiful. For ſtill greater convenience, I have added two other ſtands for holding the coloured glaſs through which the light is occaſionally made to paſs in its way to the white ſurface upon which the ſhadows are projected. It will be hardly neceſſary to add, that, in order to the experiments appearing to the greateſt advantage, all light which is not abſolutely neceſſary to the experiment muſt be carefully ſhut out.

Having fitted up a little apparatus, according to the above directions, merely for the purpoſe of proſecuting theſe enquiries reſpecting the coloured ſhadows, I proceeded to make a great variety of experiments, ſome with pointed views, and others quite at random, and merely in hopes of making ſome accidental diſcovery that might lead to a knowledge of the cauſes of appearances which ſtill ſeemed to me to be enveloped in much obſcurity and uncertainty.

Having found that the ſhadows correſponding to two like wax-candles were coloured, the one blue and the other yellow, by interpoſing a ſheet of yellow glaſs before one of them; I now tried what the effect would be when the blue glaſs was made uſe of inſtead of yellow, and I found it would be the ſame; the ſhadows were ſtill coloured, the one blue and the other yellow; with the difference, however, that the colours of the ſhadows were reverſed; that which with the yellow glaſs was before yellow being now blue, and that which was blue being yellow.

I afterwards tried a glaſs of a bright amethyſt colour, and was ſurpriſed to find that the ſhadows ſtill continued to be coloured blue and yellow. The yellow, it is true, had a dirty purple caſt; but the blue, though a little inclining to green, was nevertheleſs a clean, bright, deciding colour.

Having no other coloured glaſs at hand to puſh theſe particular enquiries farther, I now removed the candles, and, opening two holes in the upper parts of the ſhutters of two neighbouring windows, I let into the room from above, two beams of light from different parts of the heavens; and placing the inſtrument in ſuch a manner that two diſtinct ſhadows were projected by the cylinder upon the paper, I was entertained by a ſucceſſion of very amuſing appearances. The ſhadows were tinged with an infinite variety of the moſt unexpected, and often moſt beautiful colours, which, continually varying, ſometimes ſlowly and ſometimes with inconceivable rapidity, abſolutely faſcinated the eyes, and commanding the moſt eager attention, afforded an enjoyment as new as it was bewitching. It was a windy day, with flying clouds; and it ſeemed as if every cloud that paſſed brought with it another complete ſucceſſion of varying hues and moſt harmonious tints; if any other colour ſhould be ſaid to predominate, it was purple; but all the varieties of browns, and almoſt all the other colours I have remembered to have ſeen, appeared in their turns: and there were even colours which ſeemed to be perfectly new.

Reflecting upon the great variety of colours obſerved in theſe laſt experiments, many of which did not appear to have the leaſt relation to the apparent colours of the light by which they were produced, I began to ſuſpect that the colours of the ſhadows might in many caſes, notwithſtanding their apparent brilliancy, be merely an optical deception, owing to contraſt, or to ſome effect of the other neighbouring colours upon the eye. To determine this fact by a direct experiment, I proceeded in the following manner: Having

ing, by making use of a flat ruler, instead of the cylinder, contrived to render the shadows much broader, I shut out of the room every ray of daylight, and prepared to make the experiment with two Argand's lamps, well trimmed, and which were both made to burn with the greatest possible brilliancy: and having assured myself that the light they emitted was precisely of the same colour, by the shadows being perfectly colourless which were projected upon the white paper, I directed a tube about twelve inches long, and near an inch in diameter, lined with black paper, against the centre of one of the broad shadows; and looking through this tube with one eye, while the other was closed, I kept my attention fixed upon the shadow, while an assistant repeatedly interposed a sheet of yellow glass before the lamp, whose light corresponded to the shadow I observed, and as often removed it. The result of the experiment was very striking, and fully confirmed my suspicions with respect to the fallacy of many of the appearances in the foregoing experiments.

So far from being able to observe any change in the shadow upon which my eye was fixed, I was not able even to tell when the yellow glass was before the lamp, and when it was not; and though the assistant often exclaimed at the striking brilliancy and beauty of the blue colour of the very shadow I was observing, I could not discover in it the least appearance of any colour at all. But as soon as I removed my eye from the tube, and contemplated the shadow with all its neighbouring accompaniments, the other shadows rendered really yellow by the effect of the yellow glass and the white paper, which had likewise from the same cause acquired a yellowish hue, the shadow in question appeared to me, as it did to my assistant, of a beautiful blue colour. I afterwards repeated the same experiment with the apparently blue shadow produced in the experiment with day-light and candle-light, and with exactly the same result.

How far these experiments may enable us to account for the apparent blue colour of the sky, and the great variety of colours which frequently adorn the clouds, and also what other useful observations may be drawn from them, I leave to philosophers, opticians, and painters to determine. In the mean time, I believe it is a new discovery, at least it is undoubtedly a very extraordinary fact, that the eyes are not always to be believed, even with respect to the presence or absence of colours.

I cannot finish this letter without mentioning one circumstance which struck me very forcibly in all these experiments upon coloured shadows, and that is, the most perfect harmony which always appeared to subsist between the colours, whatever they were, of the two shadows; and this harmony seemed to me to be full as perfect and as pleasing when the shadows were of different tints of brown, as when one of them was blue and the other yellow. In short, the harmony of these colours was in all cases not only very striking, but the appearances were altogether quite enchanting; and I never found any body to whom I showed these experiments, whose eyes were not fascinated with their bewitching beauties. It is, however more than probable, that a great part of the pleasure which these experiments afforded to the spectators, arose from the continual changes of colour, tint, and shade with which the eye was amused, and the attention kept awake. We are used to seeing colours fixed and unalterable, hard as the solid bodies from which they come, and just as motionless; consequently dead, uninteresting, and tiresome to the eye; but, in these experiments, all is motion, life, and beauty.

It appears to me very probable, that a further prosecution of these experi-

ments upon coloured ſhadows may not only lead to a knowledge of the real nature of the harmony of colours, or the peculiar circumſtances upon which that harmony depends; but that it may alſo enable us to conſtruct inſtruments for producing that harmony for the entertainment of the eyes, in a manner ſimilar to that in which the ears are entertained by muſical ſounds, I know what attempts have already been made for that purpoſe; but when I conſidered the means employed, I am not ſurpriſed that they did not ſucceed. Where the flowing tide, the varying ſwell, the creſcendo is wanting, colours muſt ever remain hard, cold, and inanimate maſſes.

I am very ſorry that my more ſerious occupations do not at preſent permit me to purſue theſe moſt entertaining inquiries. Perhaps at ſome future period I may find leiſure to reſume them *.

I am, &c.

* Otto Guericke, Buffon, Mazeas, Beguelin, and many other philoſophers, have paid attention to the coloured ſhadows of bodies which form the ſubject of this intereſting letter. An abridgment of their obſervations and deductions may be ſeen in Prieſtley's Opticks, page 436.—Count Rumford, is the firſt, as far as I know, who has ſhown the effect depends not immediately on the nature of the light, but principally upon the manner in which the organs of ſight, or perhaps the organs of thought, (if in truth there be any difference here between them) are affected by the ſucceſſive actions they undergo.—The colours called accidental, which are rendered permanent for a time, after the impreſſion of bright objects upon the eye, and effects of leſs forcible impreſſions, for which the laſt quotted work, page 631, and the authors there referred to, may be conſulted:—the harmony and diſcord of colours, probably ariſing from the pleaſure or diſguſt afforded by the admixture of an accidental colour with a new ſenſation, or real colour;—the phenomena of dazzling, which is of the ſame nature as this laſt combination;—and the general arrangement and inferences to be found in the Zoonomia of Darwin, all bear evident relation to the facts exhibited by Count Rumford, and open a wide field for curious reſearch. N.

TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY OF SCOTLAND.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 184.

COUNTY OF ABERDEEN.

ABERDEENSHIRE is bounded on the eaſt and north by the German Ocean, on the weſt, by the counties of Inverneſs and Banff, and on the ſouth by Kincardine, Angus, and part of Perthſhire. It is of an oval form, the length of which, from north-eaſt to ſouth-weſt, is about 80 miles, and its greateſt breadth 30. It is divided into three diſtricts; the ſouthern of which is called *Marr*, the north-eaſt *Buchan*, and the third *Aberdeen* proper. The diſtrict of *Marr*, on the confines of the ſhires of Banff, Inverneſs, Perth, and Angus, may be conſidered as the centre of Scotland, being at the greateſt diſtance from the ſea in every direction. The appearance of this diſtrict is wild, rugged, and mountainous; ſome of theſe meaſuring upwards of 2000 feet above the level of the ſea; in approaching the eaſt and north-eaſt, the country becomes more level, but is mooriſh and barren. The woods in this diſtrict are extenſive, and produce fine timber. The diſtrict of *Buchan* is not ſo hilly, lying moſtly on the eaſt and north coaſts, but being almoſt deſtitute of wood, its appearance is bleak and naked. This county is well watered by ſome fine rivers, as well as many ſmaller ſtreams every where to be met with. The Don and Dee * are the

* When the ſoil of the lands adjacent to theſe two rivers is compared, the Don has greatly the advantage. Hence the old rhyme

A foot of Don's worth two of Dee,
Except it be for fiſh and tree.

moſt

moſt famous, both which are of conſiderable magnitude, and produce great quantities of fine ſalmon, particularly the Dee, which goes moſtly to the London market. The river Yethan which diſcharges itſelf into the ſea about 12 miles northward from the mouth of the Don, deſerves to be mentioned, on account of the pearl fiſhing once carried on in it with great ſucceſs. On the ſea-ſhore are ſeveral remarkable caves, curious perforations in the rocks, and echoes which reverberate ſounds with wonderful diſtinctneſs. A conſiderable traffic is carried on in conveying granites from this county for paving the ſtreets of London. The Aberdeenſhire women have long been famous for knitting worſted ſtockings on wires, which is ſtill a conſiderable article of manufacture. They make ſome ſo fine as to ſell at 30s. a pair. Slains Caſtle, formerly belonging to the noble family of Errol; the ſeats of the Earls of Aboyne, Aberdeen, and Kintore, are ſome of the moſt diſtinguiſhed reſidences of the county. The mineral wells at Peterhead and Pannanach have been long reſorted to during the ſummer ſeaſon, both for health and amuſement. Beſides granite there are other ſtony bodies and minerals in this county deſerving of notice. In the pariſh of Leſly there is found a beautiful ſpecies of amianthus of a greeniſh colour with grey ſpecks. Being eaſily worked, the country people make it into ſnuff boxes and ornaments. Specimens of plumbago of a good quality have been found in the banks of the Deveron, near its junction with the river Bogie. Along the ſhore at Peterhead, pebbles, chiefly of the onyx claſs, are to be met with. They are apt to ſeparate in working. The largeſt rock cryſtal ever found in Scotland is in the poſſeſſion of Mr Farquharſon of Invercauld, found upon his eſtate in this county, it is nearly the ſize of a child's body at the age of four, and has a ſmall cryſtal ſhot out from it. On Mr Farquharſon's eſtate have alſo been got amethyſts and *aqua marines*, equal both in colour and hardneſs, to the oriental. Talc, mica, aſbeſtus, and amianthus, commonly called mountain cork and mountain leather, in great variety, are found in the hills in different places. At Craig near Aberdeen there is fine flaxen aſbeſtus, both green and white. This county, tho' remote, is the reſidence of ſome of the firſt and moſt antient families of Scotland; of theſe may be mentioned the Earls of Aberdeen and Errol, Forbes of Forbes, Forbes of Pitſligo, the family of Erſkine of Mar, beſides many Gordons, Keiths, and Farquharſons.

Crathy and Braemar is of great extent, being from eaſt to weſt 40 miles, and about 20 in breadth, and contains 2250 inhabitants. It is ſituated in the heart of the Grampian mountains, and is ſuppoſed to be farther diſtant from the ſea, and more elevated than any other diſtrict in Scotland. On ſome of the mountains ſnow may be found all the year round. The emerald, amethyſt, and topaz, are found in the mountains, equal in hardneſs and luſtre to the oriental gems of theſe kinds. Perhaps the moſt beautiful is the topaz, commonly known by the name of *Cairn-gorm* ſtones, from a hill in Strathſpey where they have been found in the greateſt plenty. There is ſlate here, as well as plenty of limeſtone. The hills are covered with fine wood in many places and plentifully ſtocked with rein-deer.

Kincardine O Neil is 7 miles long, and 5 broad, containing upwards of 2000 inhabitants, Of late a good deal has been planted here. The chief manufactures are ſpinning of lint, and knitting worſted ſtockings.

Birse, the moſt ſoutherly pariſh of this county, is a ſquare of about 10 miles. It conſiſts of ſeveral diſtricts or ſtraths, whoſe boundaries are rivers, hills, and woods. The ſurface being on the whole much diverſifyed. Part of the Grampians are in this pariſh, and the river Dee runs through it.

The number of inhabitants is 1250. On Birse moor there is an extensive lime-work belonging to the Earl of Aboyne. Large stones, cairns and other relics of Druidism are frequently to be met with in this parish. At Finlytrusky on the banks of the river Tough, there is a stony substance found much resembling lava.

COUL, situated at the west end of the strath of Cromar, is of a triangular form, measuring 5 miles where longest, and 3 where broadest, it contains about 500 inhabitants. The hills which surround the strath are bleak and barren. The Castle of Coul, a ruin of great antiquity, is still to be seen.

CROMAR is nearly a square of 4½ miles each way, containing about 12000 acres, the number of its inhabitants is 960. Its surface is hilly but none are of great height. The soil is in general light and productive. There is a [illegible] at Braul dale by the River Dee, the property of [illegible]

STRATHGIRNOCK, or ABOYNE is the principal district of these united parishes, and extends in length 4, and in breadth 3 miles. The hills of Glentanar [illegible] miles further, the river Dee running between them; the high mountain *Firmouth* is 2500 feet above the level of the sea, and commands a very extensive prospect. The forest of Glentanar is of prodigious extent, and all of natural wood. The Earl of Aboyne has done much to the improvement of this quarter.

CLUNY, situated in the district between the Don and Dee, extends from west to east 10, and from north to south 3 miles, and contains 885 inhabitants. The surface is considerably varied, on the banks of the Dee the soil is rich, but there is no wheat raised, the total rental is somewhat above 1100l. Sterling, and from 3s. to 21s. per acre. Knitting of stockings is the principal manufacture. It abounds in granite.

MIDMAR lies between the Don and Dee, its greatest length and breadth is between 5 and 6 miles, and contains about 950 inhabitants. The appearance is hilly, the hill of Tare which is the south boundary, is 1793 feet above the level of the sea. Many Druidical *caves* are pointed out here. Granite in great abundance, some beautiful when polished.

LUMPHANAN measures 8 miles in length, and 6 in breadth, and contains 620 inhabitants. The parish is flat mostly surrounded with hills. The crops are peafe, oats, and bear. The rental is about 1000l. Sterling, per annum.

TARLAND was united to the parish of Migvy, and the two now form a very irregular and disjoined district. It contains 1100 inhabitants. It is watered by the Don and the river Leror, and several smaller streams.

LOGIE COLDSTONE, situated in the centre betwixt the Dee and Don rivers, measures from north to south 6, and from east to west nearly 4 miles. The number of inhabitants is 1180. The country is here interspersed with a number of small hills, and large barren moors. The hill of Morven one of the highest in the county, bounds the parish on the west.

ALFORD. This parish is part of a district of that name, it extends from north-east to south-west 8, and is about 3 miles in breadth. Of about 8000 acres, the contents of the parish, scarcely one half is arable, there is about 700 acres of wood. The number of inhabitants is about 670. It is surrounded by hills of considerable height. Besides inferior streams, it is watered by the Don, which is of considerable size here. The knitting of worsted stockings for the Aberdeen market, is the chief manufacture.

KENNETHMONT from west to east is about 6 miles, from north to south 3, and contains 830 inhabitants. The surface is varied by hills and eminences, considerable parts of which are planted. The Hill of Christ's kirk, with its double green top is very conspicuous. The soil is in general a light

light loam. The ſituation being pretty high, none of its numerous rivers are of great ſize. There are ſeveral chalybeate ſprings here; upon the eſtate of Leithhall there is a marble quarry, and there is marl and limeſtone at Cults.

Towie is 5¼ miles long, and 2 broad, containing 550 inhabitants. Its general appearance is hilly, but not rocky, for the moſt part they are covered with heath. On the banks of the Don however, the ſoil is deep and fertile.

Strathdon is the moſt weſterly ſituation of the county, and meaſures from eaſt to weſt 20, and from north to ſouth 7 or 8 miles. The number of inhabitants is 1550. The arable part is the ſtrath along the banks of the Don, which divides the parith nearly into two equal parts. The hills are mollly covered with heath, and abound in game.

Kildrummy is a level valley ſurrounded with hills in the form of a ſquare of about 3 miles extent; it is unequally divided by the Don. The ſoil is in general a rich loam, and very productive when properly managed. The number of its inhabitants is 570. Kildrummy caſtle is a ruin of conſiderable magnificence. Many ſubterraneous caves are pointed out, ſome of which meaſure 16 and 20 feet. The external appearance is that of a ſhapeleſs hillock, ſuggeſting no idea of its contents. At what period, or in what ſtate of ſociety theſe gloomy abodes were neceſſary no tradition or hiſtory informs us, but they are certainly very ancient.

Tullynesle is 4 miles in length, and 2½ in breadth, and contains nearly 400 inhabitants. The appearance is hilly and mountainous. The interjected flats and the ſlopes upon the declivity of the hills is a light loam and very improveable. The Don runs on the ſouth ſide of the pariſh for about a mile. It is alſo watered by ſeveral ſmaller ſtreams, all well ſtored with trout.

Clatt is an inland pariſh, ſurrounded with hills, it is extremely cold, and ſubject to be deluged with heavy rains. It contains 425 inhabitants. The groſs rental is about 600l. per annum. There are ſeveral mineral ſprings here, chiefly of the chalybeate kind; and a vein of fine variegated marble at Craig-hill, which has hitherto been moſt unaccountably neglected.

Forbes and Kearn, theſe united pariſhes are about 6 miles long and 2 broad; and contain 370 inhabitants. Forbes lies on the Don, and Kearn on the river Bogie. The general appearance is hilly. The hill of Correen is about 1500 feet above the bed of the river Don.

Glenbucket is about 4 miles long and 1 broad, and contains 450 inhabitants. It lies on each ſide of a ſmall rivulet called Bucket, and is for the moſt part a light loam, with a mixture of clay.

Lochell is of a triangular form 5 miles long and 4 broad, containing 570 inhabitants. The general appearance is hilly, they are all covered with heather. The ſoil is in general a ſtrong clay, and remarkably free of ſtones. Knitting of worſted ſtockings for the Aberdeen market is the principle manufacture. Different individuals of the family of Forbes of Corſe, have at different periods diſtinguiſhed themſelves. The caſtle of Craigievar is ſtill kept in repair.

Tough from ſouth to north meaſures 5, and where broadeſt about 3 miles; it contains 560 inhabitants. The appearance is variegated with hill and dale. The ſoil is in general light and ſtony. The rental is about 600l. per annum. Several chalybeate ſprings have been diſcovered here.

Auchindoir meaſures from north to ſouth 6, and from eaſt to weſt 5 miles, and contains 570 inhabitants. The form of this parith is very irregular, being interſected by ſeveral others. By far the greater part is hill and moor, there not being above 2000 acres of arable ground. The *Buck* the higheſt mountain meaſures 2377 feet above

above the level of the ſea; and altho' 30 miles from any ſea, it is ſeen ten leagues from land. This pariſh is watered by the Bogie. There is freeſtone, and on the Towereef aſbeſtos is found. The naked aſpect of this diſtrict is likely ſoon to be changed by the exertions of the proprietors, particularly of Mr Gordon of Craig, who is planting with indefatigable induſtry.

CHAPEL OF GARRIOCH is of a very irregular figure, its greateſt extent from north to ſouth is 8, and from eaſt to weſt 7 miles, containing 985 inhabitants. The appearance is hilly. It is watered for ſeveral miles by the Don and the Ury. There is a conſiderable quantity of wood in the pariſh, which thrives well. Garrioch is a preſbytery ſeat, lying in the great road from Aberdeen to Inverneſs. Near the Caſtle of Balquhan there is one of the fineſt echoes to be met with in Scotland. The *Maiden ſtone*, having a number of curious figures upon it is deſcribed by Mr Pennant, who has given a fine engraving of them.

MONYMUSK is of an irregular figure, the greateſt extremities of which meaſure 7, and the greateſt breadth 4 miles: it contains 1130 inhabitants. The river Dee runs through the pariſh; the ſoil is is general good, and almoſt all capable of culture. The hilly part is moſtly covered with wood. Sir Francis Grant one of the ſenators of the college of juſtice by the title of Lord Cullen, and his poſterity ſince then, are proprietors of the whole pariſh.

OYNE is of a very irregular form, but its extreme meaſurement is about 4 miles each way, it contains nearly 630 inhabitants. The ſoil is in general rich and fertile. It is watered by the Don, and the ſmall river Ury.

INSCH is an oblong ſquare 5 miles long and 3 broad. The number of inhabitants is 900. The general appearance is hilly; but along the ſkirts of the hills and in the glens the ſoil is light and fertile; about one third is cultivated. The higheſt hill is Fondland 800 feet above the level of the ſea, it contains in its bowels vaſt quaries of fine blue ſlate. Near the town of Inſch is the noted hill and caſtle of Dun-o-deer, the materials of which appear to be vitrified. The chief employment of the women is the knitting of worſted ſtockings. This pariſh is very naked and open.

PREMNY is 4 miles long and 1½ broad, containing about 3000 acres excluſive of the mountain of Bennochie: the number of inhabitants is 450. The rent is about L. 1000 Sterling, per annum. The banks of the river Gady, along which this pariſh runs, are in general rich and productive. Bennochie is 1000 feet above the level of the ſea, and is chiefly compoſed of fine granite.

DAVIOT is nearly 5 miles in length and 4 in breadth; the number of inhabitants is 900. The whole rents at about 950l. Sterling. The farms are ſmall, ſome 20, and none exceeding 100 acres.

KEITH-HALL and KINKELL, theſe united pariſhes extend 6 miles in length and 5 in breadth, comprehending about 11,000 acres; they contain 900 inhabitants. The appearance is hilly but not mountainous; the ſoil in the weſtern part is fertile, the eaſtern is in general barren. They are watered by the Don and Ury. The knitting of ſtockings is the principal manufacture of the diſtrict; it is carried on by the women, old men, and boys. Johnſtone the beſt latin poet, next to Buchannan of modern times, was born at Kaſkilbean in this pariſh.

RAYNE is a ſmall pariſh of about 2 miles ſquare, containing 1180 inhabitants. Excepting a hill on the north ſide, this pariſh is pretty flat, and the ſoil tolerably good, the new improved method of cultivation is daily gaining ground here.

LESLY is nearly a ſquare of 3 miles, containing 390 inhabitants. The general appearance is hilly, but theſe are of no great height, being cultivated moſtly to the ſummits. The water

of

of Gadie divides it nearly into equal parts. On the banks of the water, and in the lower grounds, the ſoil is a deep mould on a bottom of clay, producing good crops of oats, bear, and peaſe. Jaſper, and amianthus of a fine green tinge are found here. Veſtiges of encampments and of Druidical temples are pointed out in different places.

Bourtrie is 4 miles in length, and 2 in breadth, conſiſting of 4000 acres. The number of inhabitants is 450. It is nearly all incloſed, and there is a good deal of thriving plantations coming forward. Two ranges of hills run through the pariſh, but of no great height, having been ſometimes cultivated to the top. The common produce is bear and oats, it is not uncommon to ſee 10 oxen in one plough. Peat and turf is the principal fuel. The veſtige of a camp is pointed out where Thomas de Langueville, the companion of Wallace, is ſaid to have fallen. Several druidical temples are alſo ſhown.

Kemnay is about 5 miles long and 3 broad, it is hilly, but none riſe to a great height. The number of inhabitants is 610. The ſoil is in general a light mould and very ſtony. It is watered by the Don, the banks of which are a deep rich loam. The common fuel is peat. This pariſh belongs in property to Mr Burnet of Kemnay and the Earl of Kintore.

Culsalmond is nearly a ſquare of 3 miles, and contains about 620 inhabitants. It is very flat and level, (excepting two ſmall hills) and of a deep fertile ſoil: Several large and thriving plantations have been made lately. The groſs rental does not exceed L. 1200 per annum.

Kintore meaſures 6 miles from East to Weſt, and 3 from North to South, and contains 860 inhabitants. The ground about the town, and on the banks of the Don are flat and fertile. The northern part is hilly, the ſouthern marſhy.

Inverury ſituated at the confluence of the rivers Don and Ury, contains about 4000 acres, the one half of which are arable: The number of inhabitants is about 710. The real rent 700l. Sterling per annum. On the banks of the rivers, the ſoil is light and productive, from the rivers it riſes gradually to the ſkirts of the mountain called Benochee. There is a fine bridge lately built over the Don at the ſouth end of the town, but none over the Ury. Inverury is ſaid to have obtained the privilege of a royal burgh from King Robert Bruce, on occaſion of a ſignal victory obtained by him over Comyne the adherent of Edward I. of England, who then held Scotland in ſubjection. This was the firſt victory King Robert obtained, and laid the foundation of the Engliſh overthrow in Scotland. Near the ſame place too, Stuart, Earl of Mar defeated Donald of the iſles, anno 1411.

Logie Buchan extends in length 4, and where broadeſt about 2 miles, and contains nearly 540 inhabitants. The ſurface is flat, with ſome riſing grounds in it, but none which are not both arable and improveable. The river Ythan interſects the pariſh pretty nearly in the middle, and abounds in ſalmon and trout. At the mouth of the river, there is a famous bed of muſcles and cockles, which ſupplies the whole diſtrict. In this river there was formerly a pearl fiſhery of conſiderable value. The real rent of this pariſh is nearly 1500l. per annum.

(*To be continued.*)

ORIGINAL LETTERS,

BY CATHARINE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA, TO M. DE VOLTAIRE.

Sir,

I HAVE juſt now received your laſt letter, in which you gave me a decided place among the ſtars. I hardly look upon thoſe kind of places as worth taking much pains to obtain.

Indeed,

Indeed, I have no inclination to be placed amongſt thoſe whom the human race has ſo long adored, unleſs by yourſelf and your worthy friends. Whatever ſelf-love one may feel, it ſeems impoſſible, I think, for any one to deſire to ſee himſelf put upon a level with calves, with oxen, with crocodiles, with onions, ſerpents, and beaſts of all kinds, &c. And after this enumeration, where is the perſon who can deſire to be deified?

You will tell me, that ſince the ſucceſs of my laſt campaign, I give myſelf great airs: but it is only ſince I have been *ſucceſsful* that Europe has found out that I have ſome ſhare of underſtanding: yet at forty years, you know, one does not in general increaſe in beauty or in underſtanding. Adieu, Sir; keep yourſelf in good health, and pray to God for us.

CATHARINE.

Peterſburgh, Oct. 17. 1770.

I intend to anſwer the prophecy of J. James Rouſſeau*, in giving him, I hope as long as I live, the lie; not very civilly perhaps. This Sir, is my intention; it only remains to ſee the effects of it. After this, Sir, I am almoſt tempted to ſay, Pray to God for me. I have received, with great gratitude, the ſecond volume of your hiſtory of Peter the Great. If when you began that hiſtory I had been in the ſituation in which I am now, I could have ſent you ſeveral papers relative to it. It is indeed true, that one cannot ſufficiently expreſs one's admiration of the genius of that *great* man. I am about to print his Original Letters, which I have gotten together from all quarters. He has painted himſelf in them. What has always ſtruck me as the nobleſt feature in his character, is, that, however he might ſometimes give way to paſſion, truth had always an infallible aſcendancy over him; and for this alone, in my opinion, he would deſerve a ſtatue.

The princes and republics of Chriſtian Europe are themſelves the cauſes of the inſults their ambaſſadors receive at the Ottoman Porte. They make too much of theſe barbarians. To behave in an intriguing and reptile manner, is not the way to obtain the eſteem of any one. This is, in general, what Europe has followed, and which has ſpoiled thoſe ſavages. William, King of England, uſed to ſay, that there was no honour to be kept with the Turks.

I doubtleſs wiſh for peace, and to arrive at it it is neceſſary that I ſhould go on with the war as long as matters remain in their preſent ſtate, and you will then at leaſt have ſome hopes of ſeeing the end of the captivity of the Turkiſh ladies.

So then, with the ſentiments which you know I entertain of you, and with the ſincereſt gratitude for every inſtance of your friendſhip towards me, I ſhall ever continue to wiſh your life as long as that of Methuſalem, or at leaſt as long as that of the Engliſhman who lived in chearfulneſs and good health to the age of one hundred and ſeventy three. Follow his example, you, whoſe example no one can follow. CATHARINE.

My idea of a code of criminal law is, that it ſhould not contain a long bill of many crimes, and that the puniſhments ſhould be proportionate to the crimes. This I will own to you is a nice matter, and will require much reflection.

I had nearly forgotten to mention, that the experience of two years has convinced us, that the Court of Equity eſtabliſhed in Peterſburgh by my regulations, is become the grave of chicanery and pettifogging.

Peterſburgh, Sept 20. 1777.

* Rouſſeau has ſomewhere in his works ſaid, that the Ruſſians never would be a poliſhed and a great nation, and that Peter had been too great a hurry in his attempts to civilize them.

THE

THE CUP-BEARER: AN INDIAN TALE.

BEFORE the contention of Schah Jehan's four ſons to determine who ſhould poſſeſs the throne of their father, Indoſtan was in perfect peace and tranquility. The empire was not then divided into contending parties, mutually ſeeking each other's deſtruction, but the great officers of the court ſought health and amuſement by hunting the beaſts of the foreſt.

Jeſſom, Emir al Omrah, cup-bearer to the Schah, one day purſuing a ſwift Nyl-gau, it led him to the mountains adjacent to Dehli, where the creature eluded the dogs and the hunters. The Emir diſmounting from his horſe, and winding his way between the rocks, at laſt ſat down under the ſhade of a ſpreading platanus. Nature exhauſted by fatigue was recruiting herſelf by ſleep—moments of inſenſibility, yet delicious on reflection. Awaking, he found before him an old man wrapped in a ſhawl, who, after his ſalam, expreſſed a fear that he had unintentionally diſturbed his repoſe, and aſked whether he choſe any refreſhment? A draught of water would be pleaſant to me ſaid the Cup-bearer. The other retired, but ſoon returned with a bowl filled with the pureſt element, and cool as the rock from whence it iſſued. As the Emir took it in his hand; "Stay," ſays the old man, adding three drops from a chryſtal veſſel. After the Emir had drank, he required the meaning of the addition? "The water was drink," ſaid the other, "but the drops were medicine. You have fatigued yourſelf by the chaſe, and ſomething was wanting to regain the ſtrength you have loſt by exerciſe." "Strength *loſt* by exerciſe!" exclaimed the Emir, "I exerciſe myſelf to *procure*, not to *loſe* ſtrength." "How ſtrength is to be acquired by fatigue, I am yet to learn," replied the old man; the human machine, like every other, wears out by friction, and it is preſerved by reſt." "I thought," returned the other, "that all men were agreed in the uſe, and indeed, neceſſity of exerciſe." "Not all," replied the old man; "our neighbours, the Perſians, are not fond of unneceſſary motion, and their neighbours, the Turks, have a proverb, that it is better to ride, than to walk—to ſit, than to ſtand—and that death is the beſt of all. The Franguis, indeed, who of late have forced themſelves into this country, have that reſtleſſneſs which you conſider as eſſential to health. Where there is intemperance, exerciſe may be neceſſary; and hard labour requires additional nouriſhment; but the eaſy office of Cup-bearer to the Schah (for ſo your robe declares you) requires not the labour of exerciſe to counteract any ill effects ariſing from your high ſtation."

The Emir did not altogether agree to this, but before he could reply, a peaſant addreſſed the old man, complaining of tormenting pains in his ſtomach, and begged his aſſiſtance. "Friend," ſays the doctor, "addreſs thyſelf, through the prophet, to the great diſpoſer of health; I can do nothing without ſuperior aſſiſtance—but this is thy *earthly* remedy—drop thrice from this ſmall vial into a large draught of water, and eat nothing until to-morrow. Remember—three drops, and no more."

He was ſcarce gone when another patient came with a different complaint; but the preſcription was the ſame.

The Emir wanted not curioſity, but finding himſelf ſufficiently refreſhed, withheld farther enquiry—thanked the doctor, for ſo he appeared to be, and departed.

When Schah Jehan drank; to do his Cup-bearer honour, he always preſented him with the remainder of his draught, which the Emir took, offering up a prayer to the prophet for the Emperor's welfare.

The Schah loved wine, and could bear much without intoxication: the Emir being of a contrary temperament, it frequently happened that he had more cups to finiſh than were conſiſtent with that clearneſs of underſtanding that ſhould accompany an addreſs to the holy prophet. In conſequence, large pimples began to cover his noſe, his legs ſwelled, his beard became ſcanty, and the ladies of the Haram complained that his breath was offenſive. The court phyſicians were called in, who preſcribed all the coſtly medicines of the eaſt; but to no purpoſe.

The ſymptoms growing worſe and worſe, by mere chance the Emir recollected the old man of the mountain. Too weak to ſit on horſeback, he was conveyed to him in a litter. "When

I was here before," faid the Emir, "I was your gueſt, permit me now to be your patient." "Willingly," faid the other, "put three drops from this vial into a veſſel of water, drink it, and nothing elſe, for the reſt of the day." "Impoſſible," replied the other, "I muſt often take the cup of honour from the hand of my bountiful maſter." "Then," pronounced the phyſician, "you will take the cup of death—the leaſt particle of heterogeneous mixture with my medicine inſtantly becomes fatal!"

As the Schah loved the Emir better than his other attendant ſlaves, he permitted the favourite to be abſent for a ſeaſon; conceiving that the taliſman of the ſage (for ſuch he thought the doctor's three drops to be) required the preſence of the patient.

The doctor continuing the ſame preſcription, and the patient his prompt obedience; many days had not elapſed, before the health of the Emir was in all reſpects much improved. The carbuncles had left his noſe, his beard increaſed, his legs decreaſed, and his breath no longer poiſoned the atmoſphere. "Yet, a little while," faid the learned phyſician, "and the angel of health may deign to take up his abode with you, and diſmiſs the angel of death to ſearch for other victims."

Many people came from the adjacent country ſeeking the doctor's advice, which was always given in the ſame words, with the ſame medicine; and with ſuch great ſucceſs, that the phyſicians of the province loſt their reputation and practice.

"Of what can theſe precious drops conſiſt? revolved the Emir, equally admiring the ſimplicity and efficacy of the preſcription. Though unable to penetrate the myſtery, yet finding that he was quite recovered, and longing to preſent himſelf to his maſter, and indeed to his miſtreſſes, he took a grateful leave of the doctor, who, refuſing all reward, diſmiſſed his patient by ſaying—"My medicine (under the power in whoſe hands are health and ſickneſs) has performed its accuſtomed effects; but as ſome time muſt elapſe before the narrow pores of the ſkin can diſcharge what yet remains of it in your conſtitution, the cup of honour muſt be refuſed, unleſs you wiſh to make another viſit to your doctor."

A horſe richly capariſoned carried the Emir to Dehli, attended by troops of ſervants rejoicing in his health.

When he kiſſed the ground before the feet of Schah Jehan, he was at firſt received as one unknown; the efficacious medicine having made him a new man.

"A cup of wine!" faid the Schah, "let the great phyſician know, who it is that wiſhes him a long enjoyment for himſelf of the bleſſing he procures for others. Give him a robe of honour, and let me ſee and reward the ſage who poſſeſſes the ſource of health!" Two meſſengers departed with ſpeed to carry the words and robe to the old man of the mountain.

When the Schah had drank, he graciouſly preſented the remaining wine to his reſtored Cup-bearer; who, taking the veſſel, attempted thrice to bear it to his lips—but in vain! the doctor's injunction at parting being ſtill freſh in his remembrance—and, not to drink, was loſs of his high office; perhaps, of life.

The Schah perceiving that his cup was rejected, gave way to wrath—"Take that ſlave from my preſence," he exclaimed, "and as he refuſes *wine* from the hand of his maſter, let *water* be his only beverage—Begone!

The meſſengers to the mountain were not long in ſpeading acroſs the plain of Dehli; they haſtily inveſted the doctor with his kalaat, and brought him into the preſence of the Emperor. "Approach," faid the Schah, "relate by what good fortune thou art poſſeſſed of that grand elixir which the ſages of the eaſt and weſt have been ſo long endeavouring to obtain." "Thy ſlave," replied the doctor, "has no ſuch poſſeſſion." "It is a taliſman, then?" ſaid the Schah—"Nor taliſman have I," continued the old man; "If thou commandeſt me to diſcloſe my ſecret—thy ſlave muſt obey—but, once diſcloſed, the virtue of the medicine ceaſes." "Thou doſt but more and more inflame my curioſity," uttered the Schah with impatience—"It becomes my duty to gratify it," humbly replied the doctor—"In my early youth I remarked the effects of imagination on the human mind—nothing is too ſtrange for the imagination to conceive, and no effect too great for it to produce—by imagination we almoſt become the thing

we

we wish to be. This discovery is open to all, and all may make the same use of it as myself. Much later in life I discovered intemperance to be the origin of disease, and the hastener of death. Of this truth experience only brings a belief, we having by long fixed habit, the appetite for pleasure, and prejudice, to oppose and vanquish. As the works of nature are all-perfect, it is by acting contrary to her laws that we introduce imperfection and disease; and nothing but the propensity of nature to recover, and rest in the centre from which we have forced her, can ever restore us to our pristine perfection and health. If there are medicines which can assist this propensity, let us use them; but how can we be certain that we do not retard, instead of assist, operations, the causes of which are beyond our weak intellects to investigate?"

"But the three drops"—interrupted the Schah; (for all sovereigns hate information, though they ask it, and scarcely admit a reply to their own questions.)

"These," answered the doctor, "come under the head of imagination."—

"Tell me the secret of the three drops," said the Schah, (beginning to lose his temper) "and keep all the rest to yourself."

"I was hastening to convince the Emperor," meekly replied the old man, "that I possess neither medical secret nor talisman—but thy slave ceases to speak, as his words find no favour before thee."—

"Proceed, said the Schah—

"When a patient comes to me," continued the doctor, "I consider him as having suffered, by forcing nature from her seat. If we knew what would restore her first position, or knowing the medicine how to make the application, it would be well—but as we do not, I leave the work to her own powerful efforts. Intemperance being most probably the cause of the disorder, abstinence is most likely to be the cure. But this is too simple a remedy: there must be something to act on the imagination. My Three drops do this office, which are the same fluid as that which receives them—*water*—but they have an air of mystery, and appear in the form of a powerful medicine, whose quantity must not be mistaken. To prevent my patient relapsing into the intemperance which produces his complaint, and must retard his cure; I enjoin strict abstinence, that the effect of the medicine may not be counter-acted. But the whole, means no more, than removing the effect by destroying the cause, and leaving nature at liberty to do a work which cannot safely be trusted in other hands."

"What!" says the Schah, with contempt, "are thy so-much-famed Three drops, nothing but water?"

"If they have fame," respectfully replied the doctor, "let us suppose they deserve it—I told you, Sir, that the discovery once made, my art was at an end."—

"So," said the Schah, with apparent good-humour, "instead of punishing the Cup-bearer, I have been his physician, and ordered him the invaluable medicine of the Three drops! Bring him again to my presence, and it shall not be my fault if ever again he has occasion to visit the old man of the mountain."

By W. Jackson of Exeter.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Considerations upon the State of Public Affairs at the Beginning of the Year 1798. Part the First. 1s. 6d. *Rivingtons.*

THE Author of the Pamphlet now before us addressed the country on the State of Public Affairs about two years ago. His "Considerations" were then well received: they had the honour, we recollect, of being for some time attributed to Lord Auckland, and passed through several editions.

In the present pamphlet, which may be considered as a renewal of the foregoing subject, our author throws strong light on the *internal* position of France; for the double purpose of considering the *means she possesses* of inflicting farther injury in the continued prosecution of the war upon this country; and, the

probability of a civil war arising in her own bofom, to interrupt any part of the injury this country may be prepared to inflict upon herfelf by a premature and inadequate peace.

"I confefs (fays he) it is not now the French *revolution* that I dread, but the French *greatnefs*."—"It is not the *form of government* in France, it is not her atheifm, her fpirit of plunder and cruelty, but *France herfelf* that I hold up as the object of juft apprehenfion."

Throughout this work the author bends all his ftrength to roufe, not the fears, but the *fpirit* of Britons. He fays: "It is not quite certain, that we have not too much difclaimed ambition; I do not know that the fpirit of the people would not be higher, if we had announced fome brilliant enterprife, fome proud and lofty conditions of peace, than it appears even now to be for its own laft and neceffary defence—now, that we have puthed our moderation to the extreme, and purged, by fo many embaffies, our caufe from the fufpicion of any of thofe afpiring views, with which the enemy, upon his part, endeavours to arouze and enrage his people."

He begins with confidering the probability of a civil war in France, that may revenge the caufe of Europe and of humanity. On many points of fact which he produces, he does not pretend to certainty; but we give him eafy credit, when we retrace, and compare events recent and perfectly in our own recollection; and his inferences in general claim refpect.

After a fenfible difcuffion of the fubject, our Author thinks the probability of a civil war not only contradictory to our experience of what the French people have endured, but to all juft reafoning and combination of the future. "In my opinion (fays he) there are wanting the feeds and principles of a civil war. All the elements of revolt and infurrection are in the hands of the ufurper; and in the people there is neither defire of freedom, nor active fenfe of oppreffion."

He then proceeds to examine the natural capitals of France, which he confiders as the fuel and materials of a war doomed never to expire but with the fubftance it confumes.

The writer confiders under every point of view the population, the agriculture, the wealth, the trade, and the conquefts of France; her foreign relations, her commerce; all which are fhewn to be inefficient; and he concludes in the following addrefs to his countrymen:

"Behold the people whofe prepofterous government affects the empire of the feas, without a fhip of war that dares look out of her harbours, and threatens her enemies with her own ruin and calamities! To me, I confefs, the menaces of the French appear, like thofe of other madmen. The ravings of the Luxembourg are like the rav of the Bicêtre—Do this, or give me that, or I will ftab or drown myfelf. Yield to me, fays France, or—what? I will come and perifh on your fhores: —throw down your arms, or I will dafh myfelf upon your coafts:—worfhip me, or I will devote hecatombs of my own children;—ackowledge my fuperiority, or I will tear out my own vitals! This I confider as the real fenfe and meaning of her ftate papers, of her public declarations, if that can be called fenfe and meaning, which is the very paroxyfm of delirium and folly. —I cannot dread the madnefs of an enemy, I think it rather our own fafety and our own arms. Can I fee with trepidation or regret his legions rotting in the marfhes of Calais and Oftend, or blighted upon the bleak hills of Normandy? Can I regard "the Army of England," but as our glory and our prize, if ever (I know not by what help from heaven or from hell) it were to be embarked upon the Channel? Shall we hefitate to provoke, and call, with our prayers at leaft, that glorious iffue of the war, in which we may all partake; but which, without fome power above us fhall obfcure, and worfe confound, and impel the enemy upon his ruin, we dare not hope for? When the firft Gaul was at the foot of the Capitol, when the fenate and the people, the liberty and the gods of Rome were befieged in a fingle citadel, and the very name of a nation, deftined to the empire of the world, hung doubtful upon the iffue, the Roman did not defcend to meet him there? but waited with ardent hope till he had climbed the glacis, then drove him down the fteep Tarpeian with refiftlefs impulfe and accumulating ruin, and muft not we have courage to expect him on thefe fatal

fatal shores, where the armada was wrecked, and from every cliff of which we have beheld his fleets led captive towards our harbours, and the ocean covered with his fragments and his shame?

"We hear of Rome and Carthage every day and in every debate, even to puerility and pedantry, but without profiting much, I think, either as to policy or magnanimity from their example. It seems, however, certain, that if Carthage could have anticipated events, or have lived over again her own history, she would not have been subdued and extirpated a second time. We, therefore, who have the advantage of her experience, and can contemplate along with her ruin the causes of it, ought to bring this war to a very different issue and conclusion than she did; our enemies too, those dottrels and apes of Rome, might at least profit enough by the same knowledge, to despair of success by the present means: for had Carthage displayed that vigour before she had given up her hostages, her fleets, and her arms, which she did after, the event of the contest could not have been the same. The modern Romans, therefore, have acted with impolicy and absurdity, in pawning our lands, and assigning our revenues, and raising loans upon our commerce and our property, and dooming our crown and liberty, before we have made those surrenders which Carthage made; because they have placed us in the situation in which Carthage would have been if Rome had made these declarations to her; in which Carthage would have kept, like us, her fleets, her arms, her fortresses, and her Hannibal; and in which the event of the Carthaginian war must have been different from what it was.

"These, therefore, are the objects to which I would direct the attention of Englishmen at the present moment. When they hear the loud and lofty threats of their intemperate enemy, they should hear his groans also; when they see his hosts gather on the hills of Brittany, they should see, at the same time, the hollowness of his centre: they should *despise with prudence*, as their fathers did, the vanity and insolence of a people, whose colossal greatness has hitherto been equalled and subdued by the moral greatness of their country; they should consider their impotent menaces but as a challenge to the solid and sober virtues which have so often defeated them; and contrast once more, with confidence and pride in heaven, and in themselves, the sterling ingenious worth and valour of the British character, to the drunken cries and fury of a multitude, destined to feed the fishes of our seas, or take nothing from us but our prisons and our graves.

"These are the points upon which I would wish to fix the attention of the British public: I think it is impossible to consider them without feeling instantly all those proud and consoling sentiments which ought to make us bear patiently *our share in the general calamity which the ambition of France has let loose upon mankind.* That our governors have not been able to defend us from every attack upon every side; that we have been in this place infected by the moral pestilence, and in that have suffered from the natural evil; that here we have breathed the poison of her principles, and there opposed our treasure and our blood to the violence of her fleets and armies; in short, that we are at war, and feel some of the ills inseparable from war, does not appear to me, I confess, to be matter of just criminiation or reproach against a government of human counsels, and composed of human beings. That we have not been uniformly prosperous; that we have not been entirely exempted from the broad comprehensive mischief; that we too have suffered in the tempest; that the earthquake has shaken our cities also; might be objected as a crime to those gods or saints, whom the savages and idolaters that worship them are accustomed to scourge and whip under their own sufferings and misfortunes; but cannot be imputed to men by man, nor by heaven itself to the counsels of human beings, and the limited faculties of human sense. The revolution of France is the wreck of the moral world, and the conquests of France are the dissolution and destruction of the political order. When I see what entire and integrant masses of both the king's ministers have preserved from the general ruin, I confess my general gratitude, though I too can discern, perhaps, where to lay the finger of blame, or to direct the eye of inquiry.

quiry. But when I perceive that our arms are victorious in every quarter of the globe, and that at home we have still the blessing of our invaluable constitution; that our religion, our laws, and our property, *are* maintained and respected under it; that *we are protected, and are free;* that we are independent as a nation, and, as individuals, enjoy a degree of civil liberty, of which I defy the most learned discontent, and the most ingenious democracy, to shew me a parallel in any of the old republics, at least in times of pressure and anxiety; when I estimate what they have defended and preserved for us, and how great a share of our greatest calamities the fury of the elements and the scythe of invisible and resistless death must divide with their errors and their oversights, then I think that I could not withhold from them some expressions of applause and thankfulness, without injury to the public, as well as injustice to them; and though I cannot suppress, consistently with what I feel as a public duty, my wishes and my arguments for loftier counsels in the termination of this dreadful contest, and for a stricter economy in the conduct of it, it would be disingenuous upon that account to withhold the little honour it is in my power to confer upon them, or to conceal the sentiments with which I imagine every unprejudiced mind will compare and reward their mistakes and their merits."

A Second Part of this Work is announced as to be speedily published.

Thoughts on the Structure of the Globe; and the Scriptural History of the Earth and of Mankind, compared with the Cosmogonies, Chronologies, and original Traditions of ancient Nations; an Abstract and Review of several modern Systems; with an Attempt to explain, philosophically, the Mosaical Account of the Creation and Deluge, and to deduce from this last Event the Causes of the actual Structure of the Earth. In a Series of Letters. With Notes and Illustrations. By Philip Howard, Esq; 4to. 1l. 1s. boards. *Faulder.*

IN addition to the list of French philosophers, who have been accused of a conspiracy to eradicate the religion of their ancestors from the minds of mankind, the author of this important publication denounces the celebrated names of Buffon and Bailly. Although Mr Howard adduces no proof of a formal combination for so profligate a purpose, it must be admitted, that the tendency of their writings is to introduce a system of cosmogony and primitive history, different from and incompatible with the accounts left by the sacred historian: yet, notwithstanding the profound researches, the ingenious accumulation of apposite facts, and the magic of the most brilliant eloquence, "*musco contingens omnia lepore,*" we are far from apprehending that their systems would have attracted numerous advocates, even without the antidote which our author has so ably furnished: the nature of the subject removes their opinions from the tract of popular inquiry; and they are too repugnant to the best ascertained principles of philosophy, and too discordant with the best established facts in ancient history, to gain proselytes among the scientific, or the learned. This reflection, however, should not in the least depreciate the value of Mr Howard's labours. In detecting the fallacious arguments of these celebrated men, in proving the compatibility of the scriptural narrative with the principles of modern philosophy, and in endeavouring to cast additional light on the obscure traces of ancient chronology, he has applied distinguished talents and erudition to an excellent purpose; and if zeal, or attachment to system, sometimes leads him to draw his conclusions too precipitately, we do not hesitate to affirm, that such abberrations will vanish into air, when compared with similar defects in the writers whose doctrines he encounters.

The substance of the work, which now claims the attention of our readers, was published in two letters, in the year 1786, in the French language. It was originally occasioned by a difference of opinion relative to the causes of the formation and structure of mountains, between the Marquis de Montigny, who was much attached to the system of Buffon, and the author, while together on a tour through Switzerland. It has since received considerable additions, but still retains the epistolary form; each letter being followed by explanatory notes.

Letter I. "Insufficiency and contra-

variety of various modern ſyſtems on the formation and ſtructure of the earth,—co-incidence of ancient traditions with the ſcriptural account of the creation and deluge—attempt to prove, from theſe, and from the infancy of population in times not very remote, the reality of a general deluge, and its antiquity not far removed beyond the date uſually aſſigned to it."

Letter II. "Analyſis and refutation of M. Bailly's firſt ſyſtem of the orgin of nations, and all population derived from the poles, deduced from ancient annals."

Letter III. "Examination of teſtimonies adduced from ancient aſtronomy to prove the antiquity of the world; and particularly of M. Bailly's ſecond ſyſtem, founded on an Indian Æra pretended to be fixed on real aſtronomical obſervations."

Letter IV. "Remarks on the monuments of nature alledged as proofs of the antiquity of the earth.—Reflections on the ſyſtem of M. de Buffon, and of divers other modern philoſophers."

The following obſervations, equally ſolid and ingenious, we inſert as a complete refutation of the precipitate concluſions deduced from the phænomena attendant on volcanic eruptions:

"Sir William Hamilton, Mr Ferber, and Mr Brydone, the two former of whom have particularly applied themſelves to the ſtudy of volcanos, without giving general ſyſtems, have affirmed, that the certain indications furniſhed by theſe phenomena announce, beyond all poſſibility of doubt, not one but many revolutions in this globe, during an infinity of ages; and according to the laſt of theſe gentlemen, the poor Abbé Recupero trembles* in ſecret for the credit of the Old Teſtament.

"Seams of vegetable earth repeated at ſeveral depths, frequently found under and over diſtinct and ſucceſſive beds of hard lava, and the whole exteriorly covered with vegetable earth compoſed of the mouldered ſcoria of lava, whilſt in other places lavas are found as intact as when firſt iſſuing from the mountain, appear to theſe gentlemen certain and undeniable proofs of the incalculable antiquity of volcanos, and conſequently of the earth itſelf. They do not advert that all lavas are not compoſed of the ſame ſubſtances; all have not undergone the ſame degree of vitrification, and of courſe are more or leſs ſuſceptible of decompoſition. When their compoſition is the ſame, much depends on the ſtate in which they are emitted. When poured from the crater in the ferment of boiling liquefaction, a droſs or ſcoria riſes like broken waves upon the ſurface, and is eaſily pulverized by the air and weather. When the heat is leſs violent, or the torrent is cooled in its courſe, an even impenetrable ſurface defies the influence of the atmoſphere. Theſe philoſophers do not recollect that Herculaneum, the date of whoſe deſtruction is well known, is covered by nearly 70 feet of lava, interſperſed with ſeven diſtinct ſeams of friable earth, the whole covered with good ſoil. Yet all this has been the undoubted produce of leſs than 1800 years!"

Letter V. "Various opinions on the nature of light, heat, and fire."

The opinions ſtated on theſe ſubjects are thoſe ſupported reſpectively by Buffon, Wallerius, and the Count de Treſſan, which are probably already familiar to ſuch of our readers as intereſt themſelves in philoſophical inquiries. Mr Howard thus delivers his own ideas:

"All terreſtrial bodies have more or leſs active matter uſually called fixed fire, united in their texture. It is perhaps to the pureſt particles of this element, eſſentially the ſource of colours, that every ſubſtance owes its colouring. But the greateſt part of this active matter is found in them in an already compoſed ſtate, forming caloriſic, inflammable, or phlogiſtic matters. When pure, I take this active matter to be the element of light, whoſe great repoſitory in its original ſtate in our ſyſtem is in the ſun, but which, in a combined ſtate, is ſcattered throughout all nature. When fixed and impriſoned in inert ſubſtances, it produces no heat; but when put in motion by the ſtrong attraction, or by the contact of its external correſpondent matter, it communicates more or leſs motion to the inert matter to which it is united, and thence produces fermentation and heat. Caloriſic and inflammable matters contain a much greater abundance of active matter, much more eaſily diſengaged

* The Abbé is ſaid to have died ſeveral years ago.

gaped and put in motion; and when these are strongly acted upon, they produce extreme heat, and eventually fire and flame, till they are exhausted. This will, I think, account for all the processes of heat, and for the part the solar rays have in exciting it. The heat thence resulting will be more or less considerable, on one hand, in proportion to the more or less direct, divergent, or concentred incidence of the solar rays, and the purity of their emanations—and, on the other hand, in proportion to the quantity of that same active fluid contained in the atmospheric particles, or in the bodies acted upon by those rays. Visible terrestrial fire I take to be occasioned by this active matter, more or less firmly united to and imprisoned within inert matter, producing an explosion by the strong attraction of its external correspondent matter."

Letter VI. "Abstract of the system of Professor Wallerius, on the formation and structure of the earth."

Letter VII. "Farther attempt to explain the Mosaical account of the first formation of the universe, by the successive application of the fundamental laws of nature."

Our limits will not admit of our attending Mr Howard farther on this bold and perilous excursion, than to state the principles which constitute the basis of his explanation; referring to the work itself for the successive application of the general laws of nature, in the order indicated by the sacred historian.

"The philosopher will find in the narration of Moses, that the first elements of all material substances are there represented in one confused mass, called the abyss, without motion or animation; and that the present order of things was gradually and at distinct intervals drawn from it. In the commencement of each of these periods, distinct commands are given by the Creator, and distinct effects are produced before its close. May he not consider these commands as distinct laws impressed on nature, by whose operation these effects were generated and completed within the appointed time? In that idea he will apply to each command some one or more of those well-known laws, and compare effects which such might have produced with the effects said to be produced by that command; and in like manner progressively, until, by their successive application and re-union, all material bodies are brought into that arrangement and order we now see existing. These primary laws I think may be reduced to general and elective attraction—centripetal and centrifugal forces, nearly but not entirely balancing each other, so as to form spheroids instead of perfect globes, and to describe ellipses instead of circles—gravitation central and universal. If the progressive formation which Moses describes could be produced by the successive application of these known means in some one order which may be imagined and devised, the greatest possible weight will certainly be given to his account of the creation; and the real secret of nature, as far as human understanding can dive, will be nearly discovered."

Letter VIII. "State and aspect of the antedeluvian world, and changes operated by the deluge. Cursory observations on Dr Hutton's new theory of the earth."

Letter IX. Conclusion. In this letter, the author only recapitulates the results of his investigations.

Mr H. sometimes digresses into a description of the horrors attendant on the overthrow of religion in France. How far this is proper in such a work may be questioned. The following quotation, however, will show the glow of his eloquence in these cases:

"Hence governments may learn, says he) that when all appearance of respect to religion is thrown off at court, or amongst the rulers of a nation, the like contempt will at last descend to every rank in society; and that religion once effaced from the consciences and minds of men, no tie remains which can bind them to authority, order, or subordination: that the religion adopted by the state should be upheld and maintained with sacred veneration, and made respectable by the choice of its pastors; but that to bend the private consciences of men to civil authority is to foment unconquerable discontent, which will sooner or later break out in acts of violence; that personal property and liberty, whatever be the mode of government, should be sacred and inviolable; and finally, that war

wars of ambition, whether undertaken in the view of the extenſion of territory, or of commerce, the profuſion of courts and licenſed rapine of courtiers, or of thoſe entruſted with the public treaſure, by laying inſupportable burdens on the people, muſt at length occaſion ſuch a general revolt, as will overturn government, and throw the whole ſtate into deſpair and anarchy. Let kings at laſt be convinced, that not numerous armies, but the good-will and happineſs of all their ſubjects can ſupport their thrones. Warned by the convulſions of one kingdom, and the eminent hazard of a like fate throughout all Europe, let ſovereigns at laſt be content with the dominions which Providence has ſubjected to their rule, unite in concord, and diſmiſs thoſe ſupernumerary troops which ruin and dry up the finances of the ſtate, and lay upon the poor an intolerable load of miſery. They have ſeen that numerous armies, ill treated and ill paid, may be turned againſt their chiefs, whilſt a moderate number of troops, regulated but not harraſſed by diſcipline, and maintained with comfort and decency, will be a faithful and invincible ſhield againſt every unprovoked revolt. By this great example, (the revolution of France) to which may be added that of Joſeph the Second of Auſtria, reformers may learn, that, however pure their intentions, the whole forms of governments and habits of men ſhould never, however vicious and defective, be violently overturned; much leſs all exiſting laws at once annihilated, and the many-headed multitude called upon to ſupport the change. When men's minds are totally unhinged, they will always be carried to extremes more dangerous and inimical to public felicity than were the abuſes, however flagrant, meant to be reformed: nor will the moderate and well meaning ever be able to ſtem the torrent. Whilſt the ſober citizen waits with unavailing patience the promiſed good, the profligate and the deſperate will be active, and their deſigning leaders will mount the ſtorm and guide it to their purpoſe. No vices of the ſtate are ſo deſperate as not to be cured by temperate and lenient meaſures. Convulſions, if they laſt beyond a moment, tear up the virtues with them."

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But all her pow'rs ſtill unſucceſsful prove,
To draw from one male heart reſponſive love.
An ugly viſage, and an awkward mien,
The rueful cauſes of her woe have been:
O ſhame! that beauty ſhould be ſo much priz'd,
And—for her face—a gentle maid deſpis'd!
Her wayward fate, the ſource of many a tear,
Requires the coolneſs of a ſaint to bear:
Not love-lorn Ariadne ſo deplor'd
The ſcorn of Theſeus, her perfidious lord:
More Clytie griev'd not, when the god her charms
Forſook, for her more favour'd rival's arms:
Nor down thy lovely cheeks, ſweet Echo, ſped
More briny tears, when proud Narciſſus fled
Thy ſoft embrace, and heard thy love with ſcorn,
And left thee pining in the wood forlorn.
One morn, with more than uſual grief oppreſs'd,
Her wakeful eyes in vain had courted reſt,
Sad Mary from her lonely bed aroſe,
And ſtraight her too true looking-glaſs ſhe choſe.
Sweet flatt'ry ne'er had ſooth'd her eye nor ear;
(Than flatt'ry, what to woman is more dear?)
Men bluntly ſhow their ſcorn, the truth expreſs;
And no leſs cruel is her downright glaſs.
Her melancholy face while ſhe ſurvey'd,
She could not but remark her look decay'd,
Her wrinkled brow, her cheeks all pale and thin;
Nay, odious hairs now length'ning on her chin.
A ſight like this what virgin could endure?
Or what content could ſuch a ſight enſure?
She ſhrink'd away, while tears began to flow,
And thus, with ſobs between, gave vent to woe:
"Still muſt I lead this melancholy life,
My maiden name unchang'd to that of *wife!*
In celibacy muſt I pine and die?
Sure, never maid had ſuch a lot as I!
The furrows daily deepen on my brow,
And my brown hairs are now as white as ſnow;
Yet theſe are not the nat'ral waſte of years,
But of my endleſs grief, and flowing tears.
But, am I old? Am I with age decay'd?
At thirty-nine may one be call'd old-maid?
Well, now I am arriv'd at woman's age,
Not one admirer could I e'er engage,
Though in my perſon ſymmetry and grace
Conjoin, and all is faultleſs—but my face!
What though my cheek confeſs no crimſon die,
Nor the gay glance flaſh from my languid eye;

To charming looks, I own, I've no pretence?
But who, with juſtice, will deny my ſenſe;
And ſenſe is beſt, would men but judge aright;
Thoſe blind the mind; but this affords it light.
Now, would ſome prudent man, or young, or old,
Who can prefer before a beauteous ſcold
A placid maid, in houſewifery adept,
Propoſe to wed me, frankly I'd accept.
To be, ſhould be the ſtudy of my life,
A loving mother, and a duteous wife:
My huſband ne'er ſhould find my love remiſs;
My children ſhould a mother's duty bliſs.
From buſineſs, weary, when arriv'd my lord
Should find a cheerful wife, and fav'ry board.
Our lives ſhould glide in conjugal delight;
The day be happy, balmy be the night.
How ſweet the taſk, when with an offſpring bleſs'd,
To plant fair virtue in the infant breaſt!
To prompt, to teach the youthful ſoul to riſe
To emulate the good, the learn'd, the wiſe!
But whither doth my roving fancy haſte?
Such bliſs, I find, is not for me to taſte!
For marriage clothes, a ſhroud muſt be my doom,
And for my marriage bed, the frightful tomb!
Think, cruel men! before it be too late,
How faſt you forward my approaching fate:
Then will the beſt of women be inſhrin'd;
And beſt of wives—had love and you been kind!"
No more ſhe could; for ſorrow ſtop'd the reſt;
Her ſobs redoubled, and her tears increas'd.
Unhappy maid! forget a lover's care,
And, in its ſtead, apply thyſelf to—pray'r:
To heavenly thoughts turn thy deſponding mind,
And ſublunary joy ſtill may'ſt thou find.
Henceforth the unrelenting ſex diſdain,
Which thou ſo long haſt lov'd—and lov'd in vain! K.

ON THE PROSPECT OF COACHES

TO BE LAID DOWN IN 1798.

ALAS! muſt Mrs Jackdaw loſe her coach,
And, *levelled* with her *betters*, walk the ſtreet;
Beſides, how can ſhe bear the *rude* approach
Of *ſiſters*, *aunts*, or *couſins* ſhe may meet!
I doubt not each expedient ſhe will find,
Thomas can keep the blackguards off behind;
But ſtill, ah ſtill, her caſe we muſt deplore,
For who can keep the blackguards off before.

Then Mrs Frogmarſh, puff'd beyond her ſtation,
How can ſhe condeſcend to walk on foot;
Oh! ſhe's belabouring P—t with execration,
And ſtorms, and vows, and ſwears ſhe cannot do't.

No, no; her huſband ſtill muſt croak and crawl,
Scrape up more mud, that his fine wife may'nt fall;
He can't incur more infamous reproach,
And Mrs Frogmarſh cannot leave her coach.

"Ah, well! 'tis right," cries Madam Pontipool,
"Theſe times will ſhew the world who's rich and poor;
'Twill curb the pride of every upſtart fool,
And prove a public benefit, I'm ſure."

"It will indeed, my dear," returns her ſpouſe,
"For *I* have little left to ſpend, or loſe;
So look at home, that home you ſo neglect,
Curb your own pride, nor other's faults inſpect."

And did it but affect ſuch folk alone,
Whom Fortune's wheel have but return'd again
To whence they ſprang from; few their lot would moan,
But let them rue their folly, or retain.
But when with guarded eye, and mild reproach,
We view the *ladies* who have loſt their coach,
Thoſe ladies, who with cold contempt and ſcorn,
Sneer inſolence on ſuch whom to a coach weren't born.

How can the loſs be borne by ſuch as theſe,
Who eſtimate all others by their wealth;
Nor merit, talents, elegance, can pleaſe,
If unaccompanied by ſordid pelf.
Alas! where muſt *their merits* now ſurvive,
What elſe can keep *their* conſequence alive;
What can conſole them for the drear approach,
The loſs!—of this fame *merit-giving* coach.

SONG*.

THE beauties of nature are iſſued in vain,
In vain do the birds ſing around;
Entranc'd with the object that float on the brain,
Love heeds neither proſpect nor ſound.
To reliſh the blackbird the mind muſt be free,
Or vainly his boſom he heaves;
If love were the judge while he ſings from the tree,
As ſweet were the ruſtling of leaves.

* From Poetry Miſcellaneous and Dramatic. By an Artiſt, lately publiſhed.

Ca-

Careſs'd by the maiden in whom I delight,
The birds may be baniſh'd the grove;
The glories of day may be ſhrouded in night,
Their charms are all nothing to love.

VERSES *

ON THE DEATH OF LORD HAILES.

DOES Nature mourn not for departed worth?
Rolls not the miſty volume down the vale?
Darts from the windy cloud no ſpirit forth,
But ſinks the day unruffled with the gale?

No,—thro' the grove unheard the breezes go;
Echo is ſilent in her lonely way;
Scarcely the waters murmur as they flow,
And ſinks in glory the deſcending day.

Like him we mourn, the day in glory ends;
O Hailes! thy ſoul unſtain'd with paſſion rude,
Shunn'd the rough ſtorms that wild ambition ſends,
Safe ſhelter'd in the grove that ſhades the good.

Who hang on courts, or follow changing war,
In one ſhort moon may gain a ſplendid name;
But Fame, that varying fortune cannot mar,
Aſks years of virtue to ſecure its claim.

Hence, Hailes, thy labours were inceſſant ply'd,
Where awful juſtice call'd for council ſage;
Or, where through records old, thou curious pry'd
For native truths to ſwell th' hiſtoric page.

Warm with the love of worth and human kind,
Thou cheriſh'dſt all who held a virtuous part;
Thine the religion of a ſoul inclin'd
To ſoften woe, and heal the broken heart.

Ye, who delight on virtuous themes to muſe!
Ye, who delight through moonlight haunts to ſtray;
Could fancy dear, a fitter ſubject chuſe,
Or fitter hour than this to weave the lay!

Now climbs the moon upon th' ſtarry ſky,
The ſilver light illumes the woods and plains;
Fix'd on the ground the branchy ſhadows lie,
So ſtill the night where awful ſilence reigns!

* From the ſame.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

March 2. The Houſe reſolved itſelf into a Committee on the Scotch Diſtillery Bill. It was reſolved that it is expedient to continue the duties impoſed by the acts of laſt ſeſſion.

19. *Mr Wilberforce* put off his motion on the Slave Trade to this day ſe'nnight.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer obſerved, that he had on a former occaſion ſtated the general outline of the plan he intended to ſubmit for ſupplying the deficiency that would be occaſioned by the repeal of the duties on clocks and watches. It conſiſted in a conſolidation of rates; and chiefly in a conſolidation and augmentation of the rates on inhabited houſes, according to the number of windows. It was intended to include all theſe in one table, and to increaſe moſt of the articles, in order to make the general ſcale more regular, to avoid fractions, and to prevent any ſudden riſe, and ſtopping up of a great number of windows. The preſent amount of the duty he ſtated to be 1,259,000l. and the increaſed amount at 186,000l. It was likewiſe propoſed to conſolidate other duties upon houſekeepers, in the articles of ſervants, horſes, dogs, and carriages. He did not propoſe to make any regulations in theſe, except with a view to avoid fractions. The increaſe that would occur from this conſolidation, added to the ſum of 189,000l. would produce a total of about 205,000l. It would appear to the Houſe, he ſaid, that very detailed reſolutions muſt be propoſed in the Committee of Ways and Means. He would move theſe reſolutions to-day, and afterwards propoſe that the table of the old and new rates, which he held in his hand, ſhould be printed, in order that it might be delivered with the votes, before the conſideration took place, which would perhaps happen on Wedneſday. He then moved that the Speaker ſhould leave the chair, &c.—Agreed to.

DEFENCE OF THE COUNTRY.

27. *Mr Secretary Dundas*, in conformity to the notice given yeſterday, roſe to move for leave to bring in a bill for making more effectual proviſion for the ſecurity and defence of the realm, and for indemnifying perſons who may ſuffer in their property in caſe of emergency. He began by ſtating, that he

was

was perfectly aware that, in introducing a bill of this general deſcription, it would naturally occur to many gentlemen, that we were in poſſeſſion of a moſt powerful navy, which, if properly diſtributed, was adequate to repel any danger that might menace, or any force that could be employed againſt us: his own opinion was, that we were in poſſeſſion of a navy adequate to the deſtruction of any attack that could be made upon us; but he was alſo of opinion, that it would be imprudent to reſt ſolely on naval operations; it would likewiſe be ſaid that we were in poſſeſſion of a greater number of land forces than at any former period of our hiſtory. This he admitted to be ſo, and, independent of the regular force and militia, there were not leſs than 50 or 60,000 men reſting on the voluntary zeal of the country. He had the ſatisfaction to ſtate, that the zeal and force of the country were not exhauſted; hardly a day paſſed, without applications to come forward, at this critical moment, for the defence of the country; at any other period the country might depend upon the preſent ſtate of defence, but at the ſame time he was of opinion, that neither the Executive Government nor the Legiſlature would do full juſtice, did they do not give the ſpirit and zeal of the country an opportunity of diſplaying themſelves in caſe of emergency. If that zeal and ſpirit could be ſo directed, and reduced to a ſyſtem, in place of that confuſion which naturally would ariſe from invaſion, every man would be at his poſt, and prepared to aſſail the foe.—The adoption of ſuch a ſyſtem, ſo preconcerted and arranged, would alſo inſpire general confidence and ſecurity; it had therefore been deemed expedient to put the country in the beſt poſſible ſtate of defence. Here the right hon. gentleman adverted to ſeveral occurrences that took place at the commencement of the French Revolution, which he conſidered as early warnings of their hoſtile intentions againſt this country; theſe tranſactions they afterwards thought proper to palliate, or veil, with a view to cover their deep-laid deſigns. It was now too late to dwell on the paſt; he aſſerted it as an incontrovertible poſition, that *this country is ſtruggling for its exiſtence.* The zeal and ardour of the people, however, he truſted would be adequate to the danger and emergency. In different parts of the country, regulations, ſimilar in principle to thoſe contained in the preſent meaſure, had been made by the Sheriffs and Lords Lieutenants of counties; but doubts had been entertained whether they had ſufficient power to carry their plan into effect; the object of the bill he ſtated to be, to gain information of thoſe who would be ready, in their reſpective neighbourhoods, to co-operate with the regulars, and placed in convenient poſitions; that no perſons might be induced to drive away live ſtock; to indemnify the proprietors for the ſtock uſed by the military; to indemnify land-owners for pieces of land appropriated for the erection of batteries; to enrol labourers to act, if neceſſary, as pioneers; to drive off cattle, to remove from village to village the aged, infirm, and deſtitute, and to veſt in the Lords Lieutenants powers ſimilar to thoſe they poſſeſs with regard to the regular militia. The enthuſiaſm of the country would, he believed, convince the enemy, that while other nations were falling to wreck, there was one ſpot in the ocean prepared to reſiſt the ſhock; there were perſons, however, in the country, whom it would be unſafe to truſt with arms; they muſt be watched.—It was not, he ſaid, his wiſh to diſturb unanimity, but he was ſorry to remark, that there were perſons, (few in number he hoped) who were not only inimical to the Conſtitution, but who, by a traiterous correſpondence, had proved their deſign to be, to eſtabliſh their ſyſtem on a French invaſion; he did not ſay that *all* who profeſſed themſelves to be advocates for Parliamentary Reform wiſhed to favour the ſchemes of the enemy, but many of thoſe with whom they were aſſociated wiſhed to carry their object by nefarious and treaſonable means. To ſhew the treacherous and tyrannical conduct of the French to the countries they had revolutionized, he inſtanced Genoa, Naples, Italy, &c. and the more recent tranſactions in Switzerland. Not to refer to this nation of heroes, on ſuch an occaſion as this would be, to omit one of the moſt glorious examples, and moſt powerful incentives to glory, that ever was furniſhed by one nation to another. With ruffian hand the enemy had

had seized upon a people who had preserved peace amid all the convulsions that had agitated Europe; and flushed with success under the walls of Berne, had drank ruin to Great Britain. Every battle they had gained in that once happy country, they considered as facilitating the conquest of this country. Having apologized for taking up so much time, he concluded by moving for leave to bring in a bill for the purposes above-mentioned.

General Tarlton declared his readiness to give his support to any measure that was calculated for the better security of the country against foreign invasion, at the same time he could not refrain from imputing all the dangers and difficulties to which we were exposed to the misconduct of ministers.

General Delancey bestowed the highest encomiums on the professional abilities of the Duke of York, and was confident that if General Buonaparte had the temerity to land—all his glory would be tarnished. With respect to the disposition of the troops, he contended, that it was judicious, and condemned the suggestion for drawing them to the capital, and leaving the extremities of the country undefended.

Sir W. Pulteney approved of the measure, and hoped it was not too late. As the danger approached, he trusted the spirit of the country would shew itself. Men who had a just sense of the blessings of freedom, would always prove to be the most strenuous defenders of their country. This opinion was illustrated in the gallant stand made by the Swiss, when their cause was desperate. Their misfortunes proceeded from too much confidence. Four years ago an illustrious character warned them of the event of this conflict, and urged them to provide against it. He was looked upon as a false prophet, and his predictions despised. The conduct of the French to them would have an excellent effect upon this country. It must arouse the indignation of every man who had any regard for justice, any value for independence, or any affection for his country.

Mr Pitt noticed what had fallen from the gentlemen who had given the measure only a "lukewarm support," and remarked with much warmth on the assertion, that ministers had adopted a system of terror and coercion with respect to Ireland. During the present reign, conciliation had been uniformly pursued, but the word was prostituted, if concession was meant instead of vigour, to those who were attempting to separate Ireland from Great Britain, and who were desirous to establish in that country a Jacobin republic under the wing and protection of France. Conciliation to Ireland could only be by supporting lawful authority against the machinations of traitors. The recent example of Switzerland shewed the effects of concessions. They conceded so far as to consent to new model their constitution, and in the midst of an armistice they were invaded, and compelled to defend themselves by exertions which he hoped were not too late.—While their magnanimity and patriotism furnished a glorious example to the world, he hoped that this country would avail itself of their errors—he hoped that in avoiding their supineness and confidence, we should avert the dreadful calamities that ensued; for sure he was, had they been in a state of defence, the common enemy would not have invaded them.

Leave was then given, the bill brought up, read the first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to morrow.

REDEMPTION OF THE LAND TAX.

April 2. *Mr Pitt* then rose to explain his plan for the redemption of the land tax. The subject which I am now about to submit to the Committee, he said, has of late excited considerable attention, and given rise to considerable inquiry. As the ultimate judgment which the the Committee will form upon it must depend upon the consideration of a great variety of details, it is not my intention to call upon you for any decision to day. I trust, however, that the principle upon which the measure is founded only requires to be very shortly stated, in order to engage your attention, and to recommend itself to your notice. That, in the present situation of the country, every measure which tends to invigorate public credit, which will facilitate the means of supporting that struggle into which we were driven for our necessary defence, and which has been prolonged by the obstinate ambition of the enemy; that every measure which will furnish fresh resources to animate the courage of the

the nation, and to enable us to maintain that character which Engliſhmen have ever diſplayed, has a fair claim to the Legiſlature, I am warranted to pronounce, from the experience of the preſent ſeſſion, the unanimity you have ſhewn upon former occaſions, and the recent exertions you have made for the public defence. When I recollect, then, the temper which Parliament has ſo uniformly manifeſted, I am ſenſible that it is needleſs to ſay any thing in recommendation of the principle, provided the meaſure itſelf be practicable. The leading object of the plan which I ſhall have the honour to propoſe, is to abſorb a great quantity of ſtock, to transfer a conſiderable portion of the funded ſecurities into landed ſecurity, and, by the redemption of the preſent land tax, to purchaſe a quantity of ſtock more than equivalent to the amount of the tax. The tax will be made applicable in the ſame manner as at preſent; but the proportion of ſtock it will purchaſe will be one fifth larger, preſenting, at once a conſiderable pecuniary gain to the public, and an advantage to the individual by whom the redemption ſhall be made. The chief recommendation of the plan, however, is, that it will diminiſh the capital of ſtock, and remove that which preſſes more ſeverely upon us than any inconvenience with which our ſituation is attended. It is a truth now univerſally felt—a truth which the enemy have acknowledged, and which faction itſelf will not venture to deny, that, even in this ſtage of the war, the ſtate of every part of our trade, our induſtry, and revenue, is aſtoniſhing, and proud for this country, that our general capital and wealth is greater than they were even at its commencement; that our commerce ſo far from having experienced a diminution as in other wars, has greatly increaſed; that our induſtry as manufacturers, ſubject to thoſe local fluctuations which are inſeparable from a ſyſtem ſo extended and diverſified, have ſenſibly advanced; and that, on a general view, our ſituation exhibits every ſymptom of internal wealth—that we are richer, that we poſſeſs a greater command of capital, than this country ever enjoyed at any former period.—It is ſingular, too, that, under the depreciation which the funds have experienced, the price of land has maintained itſelf above the average of former wars, and equal to the price in time of peace—very little indeed below the unexampled rate of a few years preceding the war. I am aware that no argument is required to demonſtrate the neceſſity of great exertion in the circumſtances in which we are now placed. You have already expreſſed your opinion of that neceſſity, and have ſhewn your readineſs to employ our reſources. All, then, that is wanting, is judgment and diſcrimination in the mode of calling them into action. If, then, there be any chance of diminiſhing the capital of the funded debt, which is the only preſſure by which our efforts are embarraſſed, the meaſure by which it is to be effected is founded upon clear and ſubſtantial principles of policy. This is a principle upon which the Houſe has acted in the courſe of the preſent ſeſſion. Upon this principle, you felt the expediency of making an extraordinary exertion to raiſe within the year a conſiderable part of the ſupplies. It is a farther ſatisfaction for us to know, that the energy of that meaſure has been fully proved; that, though difficult in detail, though encountered by conſiderable oppoſition on its appearance, and by many obſtacles in its progreſs, its advantages have been recogniſed by the country. Though neceſſary to qualify it by many modifications, which diminiſhed the full effect which it was intended to have, yet the voluntary zeal of the country has borne teſtimony to the principle; and the contributions with which the patriotiſm of individuals has come forward for the public defence, eſtabliſhes that, in this meaſure, the Legiſlature was in uniſon with the ſentiments of the people. In ſtating the principle upon which the plan proceeds, I am aware that I have claimed a great deal of merit to the meaſure: In this, however, I claim none from the propoſal. The principle itſelf poſſeſſes that recommendation which uſually belongs to good principles—that it is ſo ſimple that the advantages which are produced by its effects do not neceſſarily ſuppoſe a great ſhare of merit to the propoſer.—The amount of the preſent land tax is about 2,000,000l. This ſum has been annually granted by Parliament for a century paſt, and has been levied at the ſame rate in different diſtricts. The repartition which was ori-

originally made has continued so long, and the sum of 4s. in the pound for so considerable a period has never been exceeded, that it will readily be acknowledged that his sum ought not to be diminished, at least till many other burdens which weigh more heavily upon the public have been taken off. Taking this state, then, as that upon which the present land tax is raised, it is proposed, by changing the security of a part of the funded capital into landed security, to cover with the two millions of existing land tax, two millions four hundred thousand of dividends. By this measure it is evident, that, upon the supposition that the whole of the land tax were to be redeemed, the public would gain 400,000l. The terms upon which the purchase is intended to be made, while they produce this benefit to the public, will present that advantage to the landowners which will render it eligible for them to redeem, and tempt them to give full effect to the measure. Eighty millions would thus be taken out of the market; and the public credit, relieved from so great a pressure, would be proportionally strengthened.—Having stated this brief outline, I shall advert to a few of the objections against the measure which have yet come to my knowledge. It is obvious that the first step necessarily involved in the measure is to render the present land tax perpetual, universally redeemable, and where not redeemed, always subject to redemption according to certain regulations. There is one objection which at once suggests itself, and to which a very satisfactory answer occurs: I mean the objection that may be made on constitutional grounds. It may be said, that to render perpetual a grant which is now annual, is to remove the constitutional checks of Parliament over the public expence, and to render perpetual what it is now voted as an annual supply. I do not deny that the adoption of the present measure would create some alteration, but the objection upon the constitutional ground is very easily removed. Nothing can be more easy than to place under the annual controul of Parliament, funds, that are at present permanent, equivalent to those which are taken away by this measure. Certain branches of the consolidated fund may be made annual, even to a greater amount than the two millions of land tax.—This would answer every purpose of constitutional controul. Ministers would not then have it in their power to apply money without consent of Parliament more than before. It is my intention, therefore, to move a more particular resolution to obviate this objection.—Such funds as Parliament may judge expedient for the purpose of controul, may be selected and submitted to annual vote in the same manner as the land tax; and instead of two millions, the sum may be augmented to the full amount of the dividends which will be taken out of the market. Parliament will thus have the annual controul of 2,400,000l. By this means it will so happen, that the constitutional check of this House will for some years be more, and never will be less than it was before. Another objection urged by some is, that, from the present repartition, to perpetuate the existing land tax would be to perpetuate an inequality which is so great as to form no inconsiderable cause: They say, that, if the tax were equalized, they would have no objection to render it perpetual. Let us consider this objection more closely and attentively. Since the Revolution, especially during the latter part which has succeeded, it has never been in contemplation to equalize the land tax by a new repartition according to the real amount of property, and the ability of different districts. We know that, in this House, though the vote for the land tax had the undoubted right to adopt a new repartition, no such proposition was ever made. With the experience of a century before us, then, if we have seen no such attempt ever made, is it more likely that it would be corrected, even were the vote to be annual, than if the grant were made perpetual? I do not now argue whether it would have been right to revise the repartition at present established. I am ready to admit that I consider it to have been an original defect of the present plan of repartition that no periodical revision was fixed. I think that it would have been wise to make such a provision, and that it would have been happy for the country had it been done. Two important guards would be necessary; to prevent the inequality from being too great,

and at the ſame time not to diſcourage improvement. That principle, however, not being at firſt recogniſed, and property having ſince been transferred without any attention to it, would it now be wiſe, juſt, or popular, to make a new valuation? I think not. If ſo many years experience has ſhewn that no inclination to eſtabliſh a different repartition prevailed, ought we to allow much weight to the objection that to perpetuate the tax would be to perpetuate the inequality? I have likewiſe heard that it has been objected, that this very meaſure would tend to introduce an equal repartition. Does the preſent meaſure give any new facility for the introduction of a general land tax? If the meaſure did give any new facility for employing the ſubſtantial reſources of the country, and deriving additional means of ſtrength without diſtreſſing the people, I ſhould be more diſpoſed to claim it as a recommendation, than to conſider it as a defect. In times like the preſent, whatever ſupplies us with the means of calling into action the real reſources of the country, and giving new energy to the conteſt we maintain, would deſerve the cordial ſupport of every man who is a friend to the happineſs and proſperity of the country, and in a particular manner of thoſe who would be the greateſt ſufferers if the hoſtile deſigns of the enemy were to ſucceed. The meaſure to you, however, poſſeſſes no ſuch recommendation. It leaves the queſtion of a more equal repartition of the land tax preciſely where it found it. Parliament now has the undoubted right to raiſe more than four ſhillings in the pound on the land; and what greater authority would it acquire were the preſent redeemed? If the whole were to be redeemed within a few years by the owners, the only thing neceſſary to be provided as expreſsly as any legiſlative proviſion can guard, is, that if ever a new land tax is impoſed, it ſhall not be impoſed upon thoſe who have redeemed in any different proportion from that on thoſe who have not redeemed. It would be neceſſary to provide that the amount of what may have been redeemed ſhould be deducted from any new impoſt. It appears to me that ſuch a proviſion would ſecure thoſe who ſhall take the benefit of redemption as much from any additional charge in future on that account as thoſe who had not bought up their land tax at all. This, then, appears a ſufficient anſwer to the general objections which have been ſuggeſted againſt the meaſure. As to the various details which it embraces, it would be idle to enter into any minute diſcuſſion of them, till the Committee has had further time to take them into mature conſideration. There is one objection, however, which is partly connected with the detail of the meaſure, and partly applies as a general objection. This regards the option to be given in the ſecond inſtance to become a purchaſer of the tax, provided the owner himſelf ſhould be unwilling or unable to buy. Caſes may occur in which the proprietor finds it inconvenient to make the advances neceſſary for the redemption. Great pains, however, have been taken to lighten this inconvenience. Every attention has been paid to give the landholder all the advantages conſiſtent with the ultimate ſucceſs of the ſcheme. It is of infinite importance to gain during the war every benefit which the meaſure is calculated to afford. It is of the utmoſt importance to ſecure that aſſiſtance to credit, which will ſupply us with the means of that reſiſtance which our independence, our property, and our happineſs calls upon us to make. For this reaſon, the landholder ought to have no unlimited and excluſive privilege in the purchaſe of his tax, though the terms will be ſuch as to render it highly beneficial for him to become the purchaſer himſelf. To enable him to take the benefit held out to him, every facility will be given him for raiſing money; and even ſhould he loſe the firſt opportunity of purchaſe, the redemption of the tax will not be hopeleſs. A period ſhould be fixed at which he ſhall have the liberty to redeem, though on his refuſal a third party in the firſt inſtance has become the purchaſer. Such are the views upon which the plan is founded. As to the terms upon which the purchaſe is to be made, I ſhall explain them very ſhortly:—Payment of the redemption will not be demanded in money, but will be received in transfer of ſtock to the Commiſſioners for liquidating the national debt. This mode has the advantage of accommodating itſelf to the fluctuation of ſtock, and each tranſac-

tion

tion liquidates itself. The present price of 3 per cents being about 50, affords an interest to a purchaser of 6 per cent. At this rate stock sells at from 16 to 17 years purchase, and the tax will be sold at 20 years purchase. Every pound of annual tax, therefore, will be equal to 40l. capital stock. The rate of purchase, then, with the three per cents.

At 50	is	20	years purchase,
52½	-	21	———
55		22	———
57½	-	23	———
60	-	24	———

Should stocks rise to 75, the purchase will be 30 years; and the rate of purchase will thus vary one year with every variation of two and a half per cent. in the price of stock. From this statement of the comparative purchase of the stock and tax, it is evident that the public gains one-fifth of the purchase by the transfer of stock. As far as the landholder is concerned, the question then is, whether 20 years purchase will present a sufficient inducement to redeem, and whether 20 years be a sufficient advantage for what he parts with at 17 years purchase: This rests wholly upon the supposed difference between landed and funded security. Landed property in general sells at from 28 to 30 years purchase; funded, at present, at from 16 to 17. We are giving landed security for funded, and at the rate of 20 years purchase. At this rate the share of advantage to the public is small; to the individual it is very considerable, if the advantage purchased is considered of the same description as landed property. I do not say, however, that it is exactly of the same description as landed property; they are to be distinguished by their respective advantages and disadvantages. The benefit to the purchaser by redemption is less valuable than landed property in this respect; it is dry and unimprovable possession. Land, however is improvable; and it sells not only on its present value, but on the calculation of progressive improvement and speculative advantage. Other temptations to the purchase of land are, command, influence, amusement, pleasure, occupation, according to the temper and disposition of the purchaser. It cannot be said, however, that the purchase of this benefit is rendered more valuable by any of these advantages. It should be recollected at the same time, that the purchase of the tax, if not absolutely the acquisition of enjoyment—if not a freedom from vexation, is freedom from something which a man would wish to be without. It has this advantage too, that if not susceptible of improvement, it is attended with no risk.—The purchaser is exempted from the care of management and the trouble of collection; and, taking all the advantages and disadvantages together, it may be considered as a purchase of a very desirable nature. While the owner is thus induced to become the purchaser, the public, as we have seen, derives a very considerable benefit from the transaction. The next part of the plan is to give a facility to the possessor of land also to become a purchaser. For this purpose, it is intended to give the tenant for life, or in tail, the same power to raise money by burdening the property as the proprietor in fee, provided, however, that the money so raised shall be strictly applied to the purchase of the tax. It is even intended to allow them to give a rent charge upon the property, to the amount, if convenient, to increase the facility of the possessor becoming the purchaser. It is likewise proposed to give the proprietors of settled estates power to sell such a portion of the estate as shall enable them to pay off the purchase of the tax, providing that the money shall be strictly applied for that purpose. Giving these facilities to the possessor to become the purchaser in the first instance, it appears necessary to fix a certain period, after which, if they decline, third parties may buy. To these the terms shall be the same as to the owners. Landholders, however, are to have this superior advantage, that five years shall be allowed for the payment of the instalments. At the same time, however, if they shall avail themselves of this indulgence, they shall pay interest on the instalments, in order to compensate to the public for the non-extinction at the period of the purchase. Purchasers, not owners, are to pay up their instalments within one year. It is necessary, therefore, in order to call the means of resource thus furnished into action, to take third parties where the landholders decline. That the situa-

tion of such third parties may not be too precarious, and that they may not be too easily divested of the property they have acquired, some provisions must be adopted by which they may be secured, and at the same time the power of redemption preserved to the original owner. It is difficult exactly to say what medium will balance the right to be given to these two parties, which will present to the monied man the temptation to buy, and reserve to the owner the power of redemption. The monied man must be induced to purchase by the difference which he supposes to exist between funded and landed property. This difference is greater or less according as the times are critical or tranquil. Land does not vary in time of war in the same proportion as funded property. Those who make a distinction in the value of land, do it upon its being liable to fluctuation, and not upon any circumstance affecting the permanent value of stock. If then a third person shall purchase, the owner shall not be at liberty to redeem till a period arrives when the monied man shall be willing to return his money into stock, and the landholder shall have the means of raising money for his redemption. This period will be then at the happy moment when, having surmounted the difficulties with which we have to struggle, and triumphed in the contest in which we are engaged, the consolidated fund shall have attained its maximum, and being no longer allowed to accumulate at compound interest, the dividends shall be made applicable by Parliament. This will be when the consolidated fund shall be 4,200,000l. Supposing then that, by the exertions which we have made and continue to make, we should go through the difficulties we have to encounter, and pass with this success through this crisis of our fate, when the public debt shall be met by the consolidated fund there must be an end of all doubt of public credit; there must be an end of all question of national securities; of all distinction between landed and funded property. That moment then, when least discouraging for the monied man to revert to the funded security, shall be fixed for the owner to avail himself of that redemption which circumstances had at first made impossible. If not redeemed within a given time, however, it becomes material to render the property permanent with the purchaser, to the exclusion of the owner. Three years, then, after the expiry of the ten years, at the close of which the power of redemption is permitted to the owner, seems to be a fair extension of the privilege. It would give to the owner an opportunity to purchase, of which, from his circumstances, he was unable to avail himself on the first offer. It will give him time for preparation for domestic arrangements, and for raising the necessary funds. Thus his party will have reason to complain of his situation. Provisions are made to secure to each the advantages which he will be most likely to prefer. In the transaction the monied man is precisely this: During a period of [illegible] and danger, he has got a landed security instead of that of the funds. That case, however, will require two regulations; first, that if any person, not the owner, has purchased by the transferring of an annuity, he shall be repaid the same quantity of stock upon the redemption which he had transferred, without regard to the price of such stock. Thus, supposing he had transferred to the public in payment when stock was at 50, and in the interval it should rise to 75, he will derive all the advantage from the rise, and may thus realize fifty per cent. upon his capital. At the same time he is to have no risk in case of a depreciation of the funds. Should they fall below fifty, he is to be reimbursed to the extent of the difference. The situation of the stockholder who becomes a purchaser of the tax is precisely this, that he is speculating upon a rise without any hazard of loss from depreciation. I have stated these points to shew the general tendency of the measure. It will now be seen that it is liable to no general objections which do not admit of a remedy; that the difficulties in the detail are not such as to impede its progress; that the advantage to the public is considerable, and the benefit accruing to the individual such as will render it an object for him to purchase. While the monied man is induced to come forward to assist the state by purchasing the tax, a remedy is reserved to the owner, to enable him, at a fixed period to repair the disappointment he may have

have sustained from his original inability. A variety of details must be involved in a measure like the present, but there are none which appear to be attended with great difficulty. I should propose taking the opinion of the House upon them on Thursday; and then that the whole subject should lie over until after the holidays, in order that Gentlemen may take them into the country, have an opportunity of conversing with their constituents, and learning whether any local circumstances may in any case, render any alteration necessary. I should now, without any further trouble to the Committee, move the first resolution; but perhaps the Committee would wish to hear a statement of the heads of the resolutions. (Here a long string of resolutions consisting of fifteen were read). After which

Lord Sheffield rose and said, that the measure now before the House, was the most extraordinary, the most rash, and the very worst that ever was proposed to Parliament. It appeared to him to be a more unjust measure than if the last assessment had been quadrupled and offered up for sale. It appeared to him to be an insult to the understanding of men to say, that they may borrow money to buy up the land tax, when it was well known that men could not borrow the money to pay the assessed taxes already imposed. For these reasons he did not see how he could acquiesce in this measure. But this was not the time for entering at large into the question.

Mr Tierney very much disapproved of the plan which had been laid before the Committee; he thought the Right Hon. Gentleman much too sanguine in his expectations of its effects. It certainly would not be beneficial to the public; according to the calculation that had been stated, it would only produce 400,000l. additional, and what advantage to the purchaser would accrue? He was to wait for four or five years, the term when the Right Hon. Gentleman conceived the sinking fund would arrive at its maximum! What a fallacious basis was this to build upon! He did not think the present measure was calculated to raise the funds. Had it produced that effect since Thursday last, when the Right Hon. Gentleman first mentioned it?

After some observations by Mr Pitt, in reply to Mr Tierney and Lord Sheffield; as also some further observations from those gentlemen and others, the question was put on the first resolution; when the Chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

DISMISSAL OF MINISTERS.

March 22. *The Duke of Bedford* said, that notwithstanding he had failed on a former occasion, yet he had no doubt but that, on the present occasion, he should produce such strong documents of the mal-administration of his Majesty's ministers, as ought to induce their Lordships to join him in the address which he intended to move to his Majesty to dismiss them.—His Grace then took a very comprehensive view of all the motions which had been made by the friends of peace, from the commencement of the present war, with the principal arguments which had been made use of by them and ministers upon those occasions, thence inferring, that ministers had failed in every one of the prospects they held out. He would not, he said, enter much upon our finances, as that was a subject on which their Lordships never seemed inclined to dwell; and he did not wonder at it, for it was certainly a most disagreeable one; but he must just notice, that the present minister had entailed an annual debt of no less a sum than 9,500,000l. during the time he had been in administration, which was something more than what had been done by all his predecessors since the funding system began; and from which the House must of necessity see, that it would be impossible to preserve the nation from ruin, without peace and a total change of system. Having touched upon the coercive measures adopted in Ireland, his Lordship said, it was not there only that the spirit of distrust and jealousy was endeavoured to be spread; it was possibly more so in this kingdom, where the underlings (or he did not know what to call them) of ministers, endeavoured to calumniate the characters of him, and those with whom it was his pride to act, with the most false and scandalous charges; he treated them with contempt, but it might not be so with some of his countrymen, from

from the multitude of thoſe papers which were diſtributed.—He and his friends were there charged with making ſpeeches in Parliament merely to get into place, or to inflame the minds of the people; and although he was not by ſuch means to be deterred from what he thought his duty, yet it had ſome influence in preventing him from troubling that Houſe, when he was convinced he could be of no ſervice to his country.—As far as reſpected getting into office, he would leave it to their Lordſhips to determine, whether a ſtrict adherence to principle, and a ſteady reſolution to preſerve conſiſtency of character, was the way to get in; or whether a candidate for office might not be better known by always voting with the ſtrongeſt ſide, being loud when they thought proper to boaſt, and being meek and humble when their meaſures rendered it neceſſary. He had on a former occaſion declared himſelf an avowed friend for a Parliamentary Reform, without which the people of this country could have no ſecurity: it was neceſſary, and wiſhed for by him to counterbalance the growing influence of the crown, by the great addition to the revenue: he wiſhed it alſo as a counterbalance to the increaſing weight of the ariſtocracy; for when miniſters might adviſe their being ſent into that Houſe by dozens—[Here his Grace was called to order.]—The Duke ſaid, if he underſtood the orders of that Houſe, if he had made uſe of any improper words, theſe words ought to be taken down, and if they ſhould be ſo deemed by their Lordſhips, he ſhould bow to their deciſion; but he never would retract any ſentiment from being interrupted by an individual. The Noble Lord, therefore, if he choſe, might take down his words:—but that being declined, his Grace proceeded, "Then, I ſuppoſe, I was not out of order?"—his meaning was, that if miniſters ſhould continue to adviſe the beſtowing the Peerage on all the men of honour and great fortunes whom they found among the Commons, there would be an end of the independence of that Houſe, and they would, in fact, be no longer the repreſentatives of the people, but a ſet of men nominated by the miniſters. This was a ſtrong reaſon with him for being an advocate for a Reform in Parliament. Among other things which had been made a charge againſt him, it was inſinuated, that every ſupporter of a Reform in Parliament was a friend to the French. But was ſuch a concluſion fairly drawn? Was it likely that thoſe who had been labouring to preſerve the liberties of the people would be the firſt to join in making them ſlaves? for ſlaves they muſt be, ſhould the French make a conqueſt of this kingdom.—*Although he had invariably been an enemy to the war, and never would contribute to the firſt voluntarily to carry it on, yet, ſhould the French land in this kingdom, he would be one of the foremoſt to rank himſelf under the command of his Sovereign, regardleſs of the poſt, to it was the loſtieſt he durſt, and regardleſs who were the miniſters;* but ſhould they be the ſame who had brought the country into this dilemma, notwithſtanding he ſhould join them in the moment of real danger, he would, on his return, recommence hoſtilities againſt them; for he verily believed they were the worſt and moſt to be dreaded enemies his Majeſty or the country had to encounter. He hoped, therefore, the Houſe would agree with him in adviſing his Majeſty for their diſmiſſal, and, from the facts he had ſtated, they would conſider it as highly neceſſary—for himſelf, he avowed perpetual enmity to them, and, ſaid his Grace, "*if ever I join them through fear, may I be abhorred by my countrymen; may I be derided by the world; and may God Almighty ſhower down his curſes upon me for my apoſtacy!*"

The Lord Chancellor read the addreſs, which, at ſome length, pointed out the complaints againſt miniſtry, and prayed for their diſmiſſal.

Lord Beringdon aroſe in reply. The Noble Duke, he obſerved, had entered into a very accurate detail of the diſaſters of this country, but he had omitted to ſtate our relative ſituation with reſpect to other powers, and the danger which threatened our religion, our liberty, and laws. It had been ſaid that this was a war for the re-eſtabliſhment of royalty in France; if that were the motive, it might be juſtified by the conduct of this country on other occaſions, and particularly in that which was called the Succeſſion War. The contrary opinion, however, was maintained in France. It had been ſaid by M. Tallien more than once, that this

this was not a war againſt monarchy, or the republic, it was a war againſt France. In fact, it was a war againſt that gigantic and ſtupendous ſyſtem of dominion, on the moſt nefarious principles, which had ſince but too fortunately been realized. In his opinion, no political immorality could be imputed to miniſters. The Noble Duke who had made this motion for their removal, had omitted to ſtate the benefits which they had conferred on this country. Among theſe were the beneficial treaty which they had concluded with France in the year 1786; their meaſures of finance, which had raiſed the three per cents. from 60 to 97; their conduct at the time of the regency; and the ſalutary law which they had paſſed with reſpect to libels. They had rendered eſſential ſervices, in his opinion, to the freedom, the independence, and the commerce of this country. The Noble Duke had reiterated the language of ſome of the affiliated ſocieties in this country, when he ſpoke of a radical reform; but though one hundred members had been found in another Houſe to vote for ſuch a reform, he did not believe that any five of theſe were agreed on a ſpecific plan. He was ſo far from agreeing to a removal of miniſters, that he thought it would be dangerous at this criſis to ſuſpend, even for an hour, the exertions of government.

Lord Holland ſaid, that, in our preſent dangerous ſituation, it was neceſſary to call in the aid of men of ſuperior fortitude and ability. He could give to miniſters the praiſe of eloquence, whilſt he arraigned their want of capacity. They were not poſſeſſed of talents, however able they may be in debate, to reſcue the country from its perilous ſituation. When they found their violence of no avail, they had recourſe to conceſſion; but their conceſſion was that of weakneſs and of fear. They had conceded to France; but the rulers of that kingdom aſſumed an high tone, too high, no doubt, in the laſt inſtance; but they knew the manœuvres and tactics of thoſe with whom they had to deal. They knew that the impulſe came from the Engliſh nation; that it came not ſpontaneouſly from the Engliſh miniſters. To Ireland they held forth no conceſſion, though the generous ſpirit of the Iriſh people might have been eaſily won by the offer of conciliation. In their negotiation with France, they affected to conſider the ceſſion of Belgium as a *ſine qua non*, though he knew, at the ſame time, that the Netherlands were conſidered by the Emperor as an incumbrance; yet for this purpoſe had they ſuſpended the payments of the bank, by loading the country again and again with Imperial ſubſidies. He did not conſider that there were merely *two* ſets of miniſters in this country. He would vote for the appointment of any ſet of men who would agree to deſtroy that ſyſtem which had given birth to the American and to the preſent war.

Lord Hillſborough (the Marquis of Downſhire) ſaid, that no ſyſtem of conciliation, in his opinion, could be effectual in Ireland. There were too many men who wiſhed that country to become a province of France. Every proper conceſſion had been granted by the Father of his people. Ireland had long enjoyed a free trade. What was now demanded was the emancipation, as it was termed, of the Catholics: but if the power of the Catholics was made equal with that of Government, Ireland, in his opinion, was loſt to this country. The United Iriſhmen would never have gone ſo far as they had done, if ſupport and encouragement had not been extended from the affiliated ſocieties of Great Britain, and particularly the London Correſponding Society. He ſhould decidedly vote againſt the addreſs now moved.

Lord Romney ſaid, that he had ever been againſt a Parliamentary Reform, as wholly unneceſſary. The remonſtrances of the people, through parliament, had put an end to the American war. He had no fears from invaſion, whilſt the people were zealous and confident in their preſent rulers, and he would not therefore change the latter for God knows whom. The preſent miniſters, in his opinion, deſerved the thanks of their country for having waged a moſt ſucceſsful war.

Lord Darnley entered into a hiſtory of the negotiations with France. He contended for the ſincerity of miniſters, but at the ſame time admitted that their oppoſers might have been actuated by the moſt honourable motives.

The Marquis of Lanſdowne ſaid, that whatever opinion he may entertain of the

the war and reform, he ſhould now confine himſelf to the preſent addreſs. Whether miniſters were capable or not, the Houſe could now judge from their experience. The queſtion was, whether they had made good, or fallen from their promiſes? Had they not reduced this country from a ſtate of affluence to the ſtate into which they repreſented the enemy to have fallen? The ſtate of the country was ſuch, in his opinion, that other phyſicians ſhould be called in. He was not a party man; he did not reſt on the talents of either of the contending parties. He thought, that if our proper energies were called forth, at leaſt fifty men could be found of ability to do all that was required. He was old enough to remember the addreſſes which had taken place during the American war; but the danger at that period he conſidered as trifling, when compared with the preſent. He could alſo recollect the more recent period, when it was ſcarcely leſs than a libel to compare the finances of France with thoſe of this country, and when it was ungentlemanlike to doubt the ſincerity of the Court of Vienna. We had now loſt all our allies—no mention was made of England at the Congreſs of Raſtadt, and, in fact, it was Great Britain which was now "blotted out of the map of Europe!" On the 27th of December 1796, we had inſiſted that Belgium ſhould be reſtored, and that the peace ſhould be made on the *Statut quo ante Bellum*. In four months after this claim had been made by our weak miniſters, the Emperor relinquiſhed his claims on the Netherlands. We had talked of France as having expended milliards of aſſignats; but theſe milliards, in the end, were bought up for ſix millions Sterling. Their paper money, in contradiction to the ſurmiſes then employed, was extinct, inſtead of being extended. His Lordſhip, after ſome alluſion to the ſubſcription at the bank, which he conſidered unconſtitutional as well as illegal, called on the Houſe to look their circumſtances fairly in the face. It was not now an affair of years or months—it was merely an affair of *days*. He had no fear of an invaſion, if our navy was but commonly well managed; but, when he recollected the propoſed deſcent on Ireland, under the command of General Hoche, he muſt add, that there was no anſwering for events. His information from Ireland, in which he held no common ſtake, ſtated, that that country was now held to this *but by a military texture*: and by letters which he had this day received, he was told, that in the ſouth of Ireland the farmers had in general refuſed to ſow their grain! What would therefore be the conſequence of a famine, added to the exiſting diſcontents? The Britiſh Empire he regarded as conſiſting of Great Britain and Ireland. All our foreign dependencies, the Eaſt Indies included, were but ſo many burdens. Why, then, with reſpect to Ireland, ſhould not a ſyſtem of lenity be exchanged for that of coercion? or, if the latter were neceſſary, ſhould it not be directed by abler hands? He had never before voted for a change of miniſters; but, in the preſent ſtate of things, he ſhould vote for any ſet of men who could make a peace, though its framers were immediately to be *hanged*. A few months, he repeated, muſt decide the preſent conteſt. If the Court did not ſee its danger, the people, he truſted, would find out a conſtitutional, but no other than a conſtitutional, remedy.

Lord Mulgrave ſpoke at length, in vindication of the meaſures of Adminiſtration. He aſſerted that miniſters could at no time have made peace with the French Republic. The Noble Duke who made the motion, he ſaid, was at the head of the Whig Club. Horne Tooke, who was at the head of the London Correſponding Society, had profeſſed himſelf ſatisfied with the conduct of the Whigs. When ſuch a junction was thus avowed, it would not be ſafe to truſt ſuch men. To the rebels in Ireland, he truſted that no conciliation would be extended.

Lord Grenville, in a ſpeech of much animation, vindicated the conduct of himſelf and his colleagues in office. The ſyſtem which they had adopted, and which was now attacked, was not, in fact, the ſyſtem of miniſters, but of Parliament, by whom, ſeſſion after ſeſſion, it had almoſt unanimouſly been adopted. The Noble Lord who ſupported this motion, had unaccountably forgotten to mention our naval ſucceſſes, which had raiſed this country to an higher pinnacle of glory than ſhe had attained in any preceding war. His

Lord-

Lordſhip, after ſome apologies for the ſtaleneſs of the topic, entered into a hiſtory of our negotiations. In his concluſion, he gave it as his opinion, that on the continuance of the ſyſtem of coercion, depended ultimately the ſalvation of Ireland.

The Marquis of Lanſdowne and *Duke of Bedford* ſaid a few words in reply, when the Houſe divided on the motion of the latter,

Contents	11	Non Contents	88
Proxies	2	Proxies	25
	—13.		—113.

Adjourned at three o'clock in the morning.

SWISS.

28. *Lord Carliſle* ſaid, that as the Swiſs was now the only people, beſides ourſelves who had courage enough to oppoſe the ſpreading the deſtructive principles of France, he thought they were entitled to the ſupport of this country; and therefore, as the ſame idea had been thrown out in the other Houſe of Parliament, he would take an early opportunity of bringing the queſtion before the Houſe.

Lord Grenville agreed with the Noble Earl that it was a ſubject worthy the diſcuſſion of that Houſe; but as there was now no queſtion before their Lordſhips, he ſhould, for the preſent, defer delivering his ſentiments at large upon it.

Lord Carliſle at length fixed on the 28th of April, on which day the Houſe was ordered to be ſummoned.

MONTHLY REGISTER.

CONTINENTAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

March 31. The Executive Directory, conſidering the accounts which have been laid before it by the miniſter of marine and the colonies, during his late reſidence at Breſt, and reflecting that the want of concert between the operations of the army and the fleet, intended to ſerve in the expedition againſt England, oppoſes obſtacles to the neceſſary diſpatch, and may retard the ſucceſs of it, iſſues the following arrete:

Art. 1. General Buonaparte ſhall repair to Breſt in the courſe of the preſent decade, to take the command of the Army of England.

2. He is inveſted with the controul and direction of all the land and naval forces that are to be employed in the expedition againſt England.

3. The preſent arrete ſhall not be printed. The miniſters of war and of the marine are charged in their reſpective departments with the execution of it.

MERLIN, Preſident.

LA GARDE, Secretary.

The elections for the new third of the Legiſlative Aſſemblies, took place in the beginning of April, and are ſaid to have proceeded in a manner favourable to the views of the Executive Directory, with a few exceptions.

GERMANY.

Raſtadt. In the ſitting of the Congreſs of the 5th February, the German deputies recognized the neceſſity of yielding to the demand of the French negotiators reſpecting the left banks of the Rhine. They, however, demanded to know of Treilhard and Bonnier, to what point on the left banks of the Rhine they wiſhed to extend the ceſſion of the German territory. The paper preſented on this occaſion adds, that as ſoon as there ſhall no longer remain any uncertainty on this head, the paper war ſhall ceaſe, and the conferences ſhall continue on the baſis on which they were opened. The French plenipotentiaries, in their anſwer to the Imperial deputies, obſerve, that the demand made by the republic, that the Rhine ſhould be the boundary of the two ſtates, is too explicit to want explanation. The ceſſion of all that is beyond the Rhine, is the baſis of the treaty. Indemnity on the right banks is the conſequence. The French negotiators refer themſelves completely to their note of the 15th Pluvioſe, and perſiſt in declaring the deputations of the empire reſponſible for refuſing, or making evaſions equivalent to refuſing, to agree to a proper and neceſſary baſis. On the 27th of March, the laſt concluſum of the deputation of the Empire was delivered to the French

miniſters by the Auſtrian plenipotentiary. On the next day the French miniſters returned for anſwer, that the Imperial deputation had already created too much delay in reviving the unfounded hope of retaining a portion of territory on the other ſide of the Rhine; they therefore exhorted them in the name of humanity, to waſte no more time in vain and uſeleſs diſputations, but to return an expliciť anſwer immediately to their former demands reſpecting the boundaries.

HOLLAND.

The Batavian republic, however weary of the yoke, are under the neceſſity of contributing many ſhips and men to aſſiſt in the boaſted invaſion of this country. French ſoldiers occupy all their poſts of importance, and keep them in all due ſubjection.

WEST INDIES.

Antigua, Jan. 23. On the 13th inſt. died at Engliſh Harbour, Charles Peterſon, Eſq. firſt lieutenant of his Majeſty's ſhip Perdrix. This event was occaſioned by a diſpute between the deceaſed and Lord Camelford, upon the right of commanding in Engliſh Harbour. Lord Camelford commanded his Majeſty's ſloop of war the Favourite, by virtue of an order or warrant from Admiral Harvey; and Mr Peterſon, though an older lieutenant than Lord Camelford, had lately ſerved on board that ſhip under his command, but having been removed to the Perdrix, and Lord Camelford not having a commiſſion as maſter and commander, Mr Peterſon being then at Engliſh Harbour, ſuppoſed himſelf to be the commanding officer, and, under that idea, iſſued ſome orders to Lord Camelford, which were anſwered by other orders from Lord C. to Mr Peterſon. Upon Mr Peterſon's refuſal to obey theſe orders, a lieutenant with a party of marines were ſent to put him under arreſt, and Mr P. prepared for reſiſtance, and ordered the crew of the Perdrix to arm in his defence. But before any conflict took place, Lord Camelford arrived, went up to Mr P. and demanded if he would obey his orders or not, and upon being anſwered in the negative, he immediately ſhot him dead upon the ſpot. The following is the ſentence of a court martial, aſſembled and held on board his Majeſty's ſhip Invincible in Fort Royal Bay, Martinique, the 20th of January 1798, and held by adjournment every day afterward (Sunday excepted) until the 25th, for the trial of Lord Camelford.

The Court (being duly ſworn according to act of Parliament) in purſuance of an order from Henry Harvey, Eſq; Rear Admiral of the Red, and Commander in Chief of his Majeſty's ſhips and veſſels employed and to be employed in Barbadoes and the Leeward Iſlands, and in the ſeas adjacent, proceeded to try the right hon. Lord Camelford, acting commander of his Majeſty's ſloop, Favourite, for the death of Lieut. Charles Peterſon, of his Majeſty's ſhip Perdrix, on the evening of the 13th inſt. in the naval yard at Antigua; having heard the whole of the evidence adduced on the occaſion, and what the priſoner had to offer in his defence, and maturely and deliberately weighed and conſidered the ſame; and being fully ſenſible of the neceſſity of prompt meaſures in caſes of mutiny, are unanimouſly of opinion, that the very extraordinary and manifeſt diſobedience of Lieut. Peterſon, both before and at the inſtant of his death, to the lawful orders of Lord Camelford, the ſenior officer at Engliſh Harbour at that time, and the violent meaſures taken by Lieut. Peterſon to reſiſt the ſame, by arming the Perdrix's ſhip's company, were acts of mutiny highly injurious to the diſcipline of his Majeſty's ſervice: The court do therefore unanimouſly adjudge, that the right hon. Lord Camelford be honourably acquitted, and he is hereby unanimouſly and honourably acquitted accordingly.

WM CAWLEY. RICH. BROWN.
JEM. MAINWARING. A. S. BURROWES.
C. ERINS.

J. H. BRIGGS, judge advocate on the occaſion.

EAST INDIES.

By recent advices from the Eaſt it appears, that Tippoo Sultan, who lately aſſumed a menacing aſpect, has conſulted his better intereſts in preſerving the relations of peace.

The adjuſtment of the differences, which divided the Mahratta States, has greatly contributed to this conduct. Zennius Shaw, having beaten the uni-

ed armies of the Seiks, entered Lahore, (their capital) gave it up to plunder, and put 7000 of the inhabitants to death. While waiting, however, at Lahore for the heavy artillery neceſſary to his expedition againſt Delhi, he received intelligence of a rebellion in his dominions. Morand Shan, a chieftain of reputation, who headed the diſaffected party, had impriſoned his family, and aſſembled a numerous army in the neighbourhood of Condobar.

RUSSIA.

The public affairs of this vaſt Empire ſeem at preſent to remain almoſt unaffected by the great events which are taking place around them. The Emperor has given an extenſive tract of land in his dominions, as an aſylum to Louis the 18th of France, and ſome of his principal adherents.

TURKEY.

The ſyſtem of innovation and revolution, which is making ſuch haſty ſtrides in countries nearer to our own, has probably diverted the attention of Britain from the rebellion which is making ſuch rapid progreſs in the dominions of the Prophet. Paſwan-Oglou, the Buonaparte of Greece, is now become ſo formidable as to threaten the capital of the Grand Seignor. He has been lately reinforced by a body of 20,000 men; but his principal force conſiſts in a few thouſand Polanders under the command of General Deniſke.

IRELAND.

The greater part, if not the whole, of Ireland is now put under martial law. The various murders and maſſacres which have been lately committed, fully juſtify this meaſure. The internal ſtate of the ſouth of Ireland ſtill continues unſettled, and the conduct of many of its inhabitants irregular and diſorderly; but there is little doubt, though matters are really very bad, that in many inſtances the circumſtances are exaggerated. From the north the accounts are more conſolatory. The whole coaſt of the iſland is anxiouſly guarded by our cruizers againſt the approach of an enemy.

Two gentlemen, Colonel St George Manſergh and Mr Jaſper Uniack were moſt inhumanly murdered by a party of United Iriſhmen, on account of their exertions to keep peace in the country. Two of the party were apprehended and brought to trial at Cork, upon the 14th. The firſt witneſs that was examined was the unfortunate Mrs Uniacke; ſhe ſcarce was at the table when ſhe fainted, and became totally inſenſible; during her examination ſhe repeatedly ſwooned away, and by every effort of kindneſs, conſideration, reſpect, and attention from every one, ſhe waded through the horrid detail of her huſband's murder and her own ſufferings. A lovely and amiable woman, emaciated and broken down with grief, and a charming boy, not ten years of age, and yet the eldeſt of ſix infants, preſented a picture of intereſting miſery which no pen can deſcribe, and which no eye witneſſed without ſhedding tears of ſorrowing ſympathy. She ſwore that, on the night on which the banditti had attacked her huſband's houſe, ſhe was ſitting in her parlour, her boy with her, and a child at her breaſt; that her huſband had attended Col. St George to his room, to ſee that he had a night-cap and every thing convenient for his reſt; that whilſt they were talking above ſtairs, the door was puſhed in; that a man came in, brandiſhing a piſtol, followed by many others; that not finding the gentlemen in the parlour, they took the candle and proceeded to the room; that they ſeized Mr Uniacke, drew him down ſtairs, ſtunned him with ſeveral blows; that when they brought him into the parlour, ſhe threw herſelf, with her infant child, on his body, and entreated them to ſpare the beſt of fathers, and of huſbands; that ſhe then received a ſtroke of a piſtol on the ſide of her head, which covered her with blood; that two wretches ſeized her huſband by the legs, whilſt four of them ſtabbed him in various parts; that, during this time, others of the party had been engaged with Col. St George, and had dragged down his mangled body, and threw it upon her and her infant, as they lay ſtretched on the dead body of her beloved huſband; that ſhe crawled to her room with her child, and endeavoured to prevail on a terrified ſervant maid to go down and look after her maſter, having brought herſelf to believe that he might ſtill be alive; that having with difficulty ſucceeded with

the maid, ſhe went down, and confirmed her in the death of her huſband, and his friend.

Mr Quin—" Pray, Madam, turn round, and ſee whether you cannot identify thoſe perſons."

It is not in the power of words to convey an adequate idea of the ſcene of horror which now took place. Mrs Uniacke had not ſeen the wretches ſince the time ſhe had identified them, and then but for a moment; a cold tremor inſtantly ſeized her; ſhe turned pale, and fainted: When recovered a little from her deprefſion, ſhe made repeated efforts to turn round; the fear of ſeeing them counteracted her effort.—" Will they hurt me?" ſhe exclaimed; the Court aſſured her not. When ſhe was turned round, the ſtart of horror which ſhe gave was inconceivable; her look was wild—ſhe gazed at them for a moment; then, in the twinkling of an eye, ſhe recovered a greater degree of apparent ſtrength and compoſure than ſhe had poſſeſſed during a long account of the various occurrences in this horrible tranſaction. She darted ſuddenly from the chair, and immediately pointed out and recognized the two wretches who were at the bar. " O! then I will point them out," ſhe ſaid—" That is the man that murdered my dear huſband; this the man who nearly murdered me." She then ſunk into her chair and moaned piteouſly. Mr Uniacke's evidence was not material.

The priſoners attempted an *alibi*: ſuffice it to ſay, their ſtory was diſcredited by an honourable Jury; the two were found guilty, without the Jury leaving the box. The learned Judge, after a pathetic exhortation from the bench, paſſed judgment of death upon the priſoners, and ordered them to be executed at Kilworth, near where the barbarous murder was committed.

At the viſitation of the College of Dublin, nineteen young gentlemen were expelled—ſome for contumacy in refuſing to anſwer queſtions put to them—others for being united Iriſhmen.

LONDON.

April 3. We are extremely concerned to announce the loſs of his Majeſty's ſhip the Pallas, of 32 guns, the Hon. Capt. Curzon, ſhe was drove on ſhore in Plymouth ſound. On board the Pallas, one man only loſt his life, and he was killed by the fall of the main-maſt. The ſhip was reduced to ſuch a ſtate of wreck, that ſhe could not be got off, and it was expected ſhe would fall to pieces the next tide. A boat belonging to the Canada, in attempting to go to the relief of the Pallas, was upſet, and Mr Maſſey, acting Lieutenant of the Canada, and three ſeamen, were unfortunately drowned.

4 Between ſeven and eight o'clock, as J. Melliſh, Eſq; brother to the member for Grimſby, Samuel Boſanquet, Eſq. one of the Directors of the Bank of England, and——Poole, Eſq. were returning to town, after hunting with his Majeſty, they were attacked on Hounſlow-Heath by three footpads armed with piſtols, one or more of whom fired into the chaiſe; they then robbed the gentlemen of their gold watches and money, and afterwards fired again into the chaiſe; one of the balls, preſumed to be the laſt which was fired, lodged in the back part of Mr Melliſh's head. He was conveyed to the Three Magpies, near Colnbrook, where he remained yeſterday evening in a ſtate of the moſt imminent danger, the ball not having been extracted. A ſurgeon, who was ſent for from Hounſlow, pronounced Mr Melliſh paſt recovery; and on his return home, he was ſtopped and robbed of his watch and money by three men, ſuppoſed the ſame who committed the atrocious act above-mentioned. Mr Melliſh continued in a lingering ſtate till the 9th inſt. at the Magpies, Hounſlow, where he died.

11. The Commiſſion for the trials of the perſons in cuſtody for high treaſon, as mentioned in our laſt Number, p. 205. was opened at Maidſtone before the Juſtices Buller and Heath; and on Thurſday morning O'Connor, O'Coigly, Binns, Ailey, and Jeremiah Leary (O'Conner's ſervant) were brought to the bar.

Mr Juſtice Buller informed them, that the Grand Jury of the county had found a bill of indictment againſt them for High Treaſon; that the Court intended to adjourn to the 30th inſtant, when they would be arraigned, and that probably their trials would come on the next day.

13. This evening, at 7 o'clock, Mr Sylveſter, and three other meſſengers belong-

belonging to the Duke of Portland's office, together with three Bow-ſtreet officers, and Emmerſon, beadle of Manchester, arrived in town from that place, with the following perſons apprehended by them on Tueſday night and Wedneſday morning, on ſuſpicion of High Treaſon, viz. James Dixon, James Hughes, and Andrew Dogherty, weavers; John Dods, a taylor; William Cowdrey, a printer; Moſes Fry, a taylor; Thomas Towle, a ſpinner; and William Chetham, a cotton manufacturer. They were all ſafely lodged in the Houſe of Correction in Cold-bath fields. They were eſcorted to London by different parties of the military. An attempt was made at Manchester to reſcue Hughes, which, by the vigilance of the officers was defeated. The papers found upon the priſoners are left in the poſſeſſion of Mr Flood.

19. The moſt fortunate diſcoveries of the deſigns of the traitors to their country have reſulted from the apprehending of the perſons at Manchester. Sixteen perſons belonging to the London Correſponding Society were the night before laſt taken into cuſtody, and at twelve o'clock laſt night, another diviſion of the Society, (and we believe the head of it) called the Executive, whilſt ſitting in high conſult.

This Committee had long met, very ſecretly, in a large old building in the paſſage leading out of Newcaſtle-ſtreet, Strand, into Craven-buildings. Sixteen members of the Society were laſt night found ſitting, with a box, books, papers, &c. and ſeveral deſks, as if the ſecretaries of the different diviſions were there to take down the minutes of the reſolutions of the Executive Committee. There was alſo an elevated ſeat like a pulpit. Eight of theſe democrats were firſt conveyed to Carpmeal's in Bow-ſtreet, while the other eight remained under guard: the ſecond eight were afterwards taken away and all of them, were lodged in ſecure cuſtody. The box, with the papers and the books tied on the outſide of it, was taken away by the King's Meſſenger.

The ſpirit as well as loyalty of this country, are now blazing out with remarkable luſtre. The number and extent of the public contributions, by ſocieties and individuals of all deſcriptions, would require a volume to record them; and the offers of extenſion of their ſervices by all the volunteer corps is very pleaſing. The contributions paid into the Bank of England, on the 27th, amounted to

Voluntary	L.	1,167,216	11	5
Aſſeſſed Taxes		675,013	18	4
Total	L.	1,842,230	9	4

Captures.

A French privateer brig, of 16 guns and 70 men, by the Thalia.

A French privateer pierced for 16 guns, 8 only mounted, and 72 men, by the Emerald.

A French cutter privateer of 10 guns, run on ſhore and deſtroyed on the coaſt of Holland, by the Echo.

Two French privateers, one of 20 guns and 137 men; the other of 18 guns and 107 men, by the Magnanime.

The brig Legere, of 10 guns and 60 men, by the Nautilus.

L'Emilie, of 18 guns and 110 men, by the Cleopatra.

Le Caeſar, of 16 guns and 80 men, by the Cambrian.

Le Pont de Lodi, of 16 guns and 80 men by the Cambrian.

Le Dragon, of 12 guns and 80 men, by the Tamer.

Le Dix Huit de Fructidor, of 10 guns and 75 men, by the Tamar.

La Decidée, of 10 guns and 89 men, by the Alfred.

Le Ceres, pierced for 16 guns, but mounting only 2, by the Matilda.

L'Eſpoire, of 8 guns and 66 men, by the Zephyr.

Le Scipio, of 20 guns and 160 men, by the Alfred.

La Caye du Pont, of 16 guns and 120 men, by La Concorde.

La Proſerpine, of 8 guns and 82 men, by La Concorde.

L'Intrigue, of 6 guns and 64 men, by the Lapwing.

La Rencontre, of 6 guns and 49 men, by the Alfred.

Le Battreu de Republicain, of 4 guns and 38 men, by the Amphitrite.

San Joſef, of 6 guns, 10 ſwivels, and 40 men, by the Thalia.

Victoria Spaniſh brig, of 14 guns, 10 ſwivels, by the Thalia.

The Dragon, of 600 tuns, 8 guns and 45 men, by the Zealous.

St Joſe, alias El Gavelar, of 6 guns and 44 men, by the Speedy.

Le Lynx, of 10 guns and 70 men, by the Kingsfiſher.

EDIN-

EDINBURGH.

The collection made for the benefit of the *Induſtrious blind* at St Andrew's Church door on Thurſday amounted to upwards of 51l. Sterling. The ſermon preached by Mr Buchanan, one of the miniſters of the Canongate, was much commended. The articles manufactured by this unfortunate claſs of beings, are to be expoſed for ſale at the Tron Church every Wedneſday.

The Britiſh factory at Peterſburgh have ſubſcribed 2000l. for the defence of this country. The other reſident Britiſh are contributing very liberally.

Sir James Erſkine, by accounts from Lisbon, made a narrow eſcape for his life, in a quarrel which he had with ſome Portugueſe officers at an aſſembly in that city. They ſecretly waited for him on his return home, and wounded him very ſeverely in the face and head; and had he not defended himſelf with the greateſt ſpirit, he muſt have fallen a victim to the aſſaſſins. The ſoldiers, it is ſaid, in conſequence of this outrage being offered to their favourite officer, went the next day, and attacked the Portugueſe corps; in which conflict three of the former, and four of the latter, were killed.

On the 4th, a boat which had gone from Leith with two gentlemen and a ſailor, was diſcovered to overſet by a heavy ſquall of wind, a ſhort way below Queensferry. Aſſiſtance was immediately ſent off from the North Ferry, but unfortunately too late to ſave the whole; one of the gentlemen unable to ſupport himſelf longer by the boat, went down, and was drowned.

11. At a meeting of the Seſſion of the High Church, it was unanimouſly agreed to ſubſcribe the declaration reſpecting a proper obſervance of the Lord's day, which was lately inſerted in all the newſpapers; and it was accordingly ſubſcribed by all the members. We hope ſo laudable an example will be generally followed.

19. About eight o'clock in the evening, John and Robert Bell, brothers, and William Kerr, were unfortunately drowned in the river Annan, near Halleaths. William Kerr, we hear, loſt his life in endeavouring to ſave the other two.

21. This day, 45 French priſoners, captured in the Legere, by Capt. Gunter, of the Nautilus ſloop of war, were brought to Edinburgh Caſtle, by a party of the Lancaſhire cavalry; and on Tueſday 29 French priſoners, from the ſhips taken and retaken by the Wrights armed ſhip, arrived here from Shields.

26. This afternoon, an overheated malt kiln, in the north back of the Canongate, belonging to a brewer, caught fire, which, with its contents, were ſoon conſumed to aſhes.

The total net produce of the taxes for one year, ending the 5th April 1795, was 18,576,487l. 5½d.

The total men returned by the Lord Lieutenants of Scotland to be balloted for to ſerve in the militia amount to 24,330.

The apportion-men to be balloted for to ſerve amount to 5,492.

The particulars of the above numbers are as follow.

		Returned.	*To ſerve.*
Edinburgh	County	967	218
	City	350	79
Linlithgow		314	70
Haddington		609	137
Berwick		643	145
Peebles		223	50
Selkirk		111	25
Roxburgh		661	149
Kirkcudbright		554	125
Wigton		297	89
Ayr		1514	342
Renfrew		824	186
Lanark		2375	536
Stirling		859	194
Kinroſs		117	26
Fife		1484	335
Dumbarton		335	80
Bute		136	30
Argyle		1141	257
Inverneſs		800	188
Perth		2210	500
Forfar		1555	351
Kincardine		443	100
Aberdeen		2051	463
Banff		551	124
Elgin		400	90
Nairn		101	22
Cromarty		97	21
Roſs		686	155
Sutherland		223	52
Caithneſs		299	67
Drumfries		1092	246
Clackmanan		179	40
		24,330	5492

We underſtand that the following is the reſult of the report of the Court of

of Enquiry held at Ayr for investigating certain charges preferred against Lieut. Colonel Woodford, of the North Fencible Highlanders, by Surgeon Ralfton Caldwell of the fame regiment.

Adjutant-General's Office, Edinburgh, April 8. 1798.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Lieut. General Sir Robert Abercromby has attentively perufed and conſidered the proceedings of the General Court of Enquiry, whereof Colonel Biſhop was Preſident, held for the purpoſe of inveſtigating and reporting upon certain charges preferred againſt Lieut-Col. John Woodford, commanding the North Fencible Highlanders, by Surgeon Ralfton Caldwell of the ſaid regiment; from which it clearly appears, that Surgeon Caldwell has not adduced a ſhadow of evidence to eſtabliſh the three firſt charges, and that the fourth charge, was of a nature undeſerving of notice.

On this occaſion the General cannot help expreſſing his diſapprobation of the raſh and unbecoming attack made by Surgeon Caldwell on the conduct of his Commanding Officer; and he ſtrongly recommends to him to confine himſelf in future to the duties of his ſtation, and on all occaſions to pay due reſpect to his ſuperiors. (Signed)

ALEX. MACKAY, D. Adjt. Gen.

The amuſements of winter have been the Theatre, and the aſſemblies in George ſtreet, particularly the card aſſemblies, which have been in general well attended. In the Theatre nothing remarkable has been brought forward, excepting the Caſtle Spectre, which owes its ſucceſs more to the ſcenery, than the merit of the piece, or to the abilities of the actors. It is the workmanſhip chiefly of Mr Naſmyth, and is allowed to be uncommonly well executed. The only actor who appeared during the ſeaſon, not formerly known, was Mr Elliſton, who, we are informed, in the language of the ſtage, is a young man of great promiſe. He ſeems to be naturally endowed with the requiſites of a good actor, a good figure, a good voice, and a good addreſs. At the early age of 23, he has performed ſeveral principal characters, viz. Macbeth, Romeo, Prince Henry, and ſome others, with a degree of juſtneſs and energy which were hardly looked for at that period of life. The faſhionable private entertainments have been cards and ſupper.

APPEAL.

Mabel Duncan, daughter and repreſentative of George Duncan, late of Scone, v. James Ritchie, of Hole, in Scone, *affirmed* the decree of the Court of Seſſion.

THE beginning of April was cold and ſtormy to the 5th, when the wind changed from the eaſt to the ſouth and ſouth-weſt, and continued mutually warm for the ſeaſon till the 12th, the thermometer in the fhade being from 60° to 67°. After the 12th the heat abated conſiderably, the wind got into the eaſt point, where it remained till the end of the month. On the 14th, 15th, 16th, and 21ſt, there was rain, but in no great quantity. The markets much the ſame as laſt month, and rather lower in price.—The Engliſh report ſtates,

That the ſtrong eaſterly winds and drought in the beginning of the month retarded the progreſs of vegetation very materially, and alſo threatened the farmer with danger to his early crops; but the warm and copious rains which have ſince fallen, have completely removed his apprehenſions, by producing an unuſual appearance of verdure and forwardneſs. The oats have every where been put into the ground, and barley alſo, except on very cold ſoils. The wheats have now got over the moſt dangerous ſeaſon, without having received any ſerious injuries, and in general look favourably. Clover and other artificial graſſes ſeem likewiſe to have eſcaped without much injury, and on the whole to put on a promiſing aſpect. Some obſerve, that more really uſeful agricultural buſineſs has been performed during the laſt three or four months, than has been done at the ſame ſeaſon for many years paſt. Wheat and oats ſeem to be riſing in price; eſpecially the latter; but barley is much as uſual.

LISTS.

MARRIAGES.

March 29. Alexander Lockhart Macdonald of Largie, Eſq; to Miſs Jane M'Niel, daughter of the deceaſed Daniel M'Niel of Gallochilly, Eſq.

April 2. George Irving, Eſq; Captain in the Royal Iriſh Artillery, to Miſs Hamilton of Miluburn.

— Johnſton Hannay, Eſq; of Tors, to Miſs

Miſs Jane Johnſton, daughter of the deceaſed Alexander Johnſton, Eſq; of Carnſalloch.

5. Chriſtian Geddes, Eſq; late of Calcutta, to Miſs Katharine Ranken, ſecond daughter of the deceaſed Robert Ranken, Eſq; of Colden.

9. At Edinburgh, Captain John Drummond, in the ſervice of the Eaſt India Company, to Miſs Mary Hariot Cridland, daughter of the late Captain Cridland.

17. At Edinburgh, Mr W. Walker, Writer to the Signet, to Miſs Walker, eldeſt daughter of the late Rev. Mr Walker of Colleſſie.

— At Edinburgh, John Phillips, Eſq; to Miſs Margaret Douglas, daughter of the late Lieutenant General Douglas.

28. At Trinity Lodge, near Edinburgh, Thomas Bruce, Eſq; to Miſs Ramſay.

30. Mr John Webſter merchant in Leith, to Miſs Jean Bell, daughter of the late Mr George Bell, merchant in Leith.

At Dublin, Captain Roſs of the 41ſt regiment, to the Hon. Miſs Browne, daughter of the late Lord Kilmaine, and niece to the Earl of Charlemont.

BIRTHS.

March 27. Mrs Duff of Fettereſſo, a daughter.

At London, the Counteſs of Spencer, a ſon.

April 3. At Bath, the Lady of Lieutenant Colonel George Urquhart, of the 60th regt. of foot, a ſon.

8. Mrs Maclean of Lochbuy, a daughter.

9. At Banff, Mrs G. G. Robinſon, a ſon.

10. Lady Charlotte Campbell, a ſon.

11. Mrs Tulloch of Ballone, a ſon.

12. Lady Charlotte Hope, a ſon.

17. At Invergowrie houſe, Mrs C. Stewart, a daughter.

20. At London, the Marchioneſs of Titchfield, a daughter.

DEATHS.

At Liſbon, Peter Ramſay, Eſq; ſon of William Ramſay, Eſq; of Barnton.

At St Domingo, Captain Archibald M'Lean, of the 26th regiment of foot.

Feb. 24. Patrick Bannag, Eſq; of Machrimore.

26. At Irvine, the Hon. Patrick Boyle, of Shewalton.

— At Barbeth, Mrs Macadam of Craigengillan.

March 1. James Coſſills, Eſq; of Flaſk.

— At Montroſe, Mr Robert Napier, merchant, many years one of the magiſtrates of that place.

— At Deanbank, James Stewart, Eſq; formerly ſurgeon to the 3d regiment of dragoons.

—At Dumfries, James Carruthers, Eſq; of Warmanbie.

4. At Kirkcubright, Mr John Buchanan, writer.

— At Druntiſland, James Campbell, Eſq; late Provoſt of that burgh.

7. At Elgin, Mr John Ritchie, merchant.

8. At Stirling, Dr Walter Stirling, Phyſician.

9. Her Serene Highneſs the Ducheſs-Dowager of Wirtemberg.

11. At Glaſgow, Mr James Munro, aſſiſtant ſurgeon in the ſervice of the Hon. Eaſt India Company, on the Madras eſtabliſhment.

— At Glaſgow, in the 77th year of his age, Mr John Thom, who, for upwards of forty years, was an eminent and reſpectable farmer at Somerſton, in the neighbourhood of that city. Mr Thom was among the firſt who introduced the preſent improved ſyſtem of huſbandry into that part of the country.

14. At Newcaſtle, Peter Rothe, Eſq; regulating captain at that port.

PREFERMENTS.

His Royal Highneſs the Duke of York is appointed Commander in Chief of all his Majeſty's forces in Great Britain.

Lord Somerville, to be Preſident of the Board of Agriculture.

The Earl of Ormond and Viſcount Dillon, to be Knights of St Patrick.

The dignity of a Baronet conferred on John Dalrymple Hay, Eſq; of Park Place, in the parish of Old Luce, county of Wigton.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

April 3. Peter Ralſton, ſkinner, formerly in Glaſgow now in Stirling.

— James Scott, cattle dealer in Glan.

7. John Learmonth junior, merchant in Leith.

9. James Pelmer printer in Kelſo.

10. John Weir merchant in Glaſgow.

12. Meſſrs Melſis and Co. merchants in Perth.

16. Thomas Anderſon merchant in Perth.

Prices of Grain at Haddington, April 30.
Wheat, 27s. Barley, 20s. Oats, 16s. Peaſe, 14s. Beans, 13s. 6d.

Edinburgh, April 28. Oat-meal, 1s. 4½d. Barley-meal, 11d. Peaſe-meal, 8½d.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

April 7.	April 23.
Bank Stock 118¼	117
3 per cent. red. 49	47¼
3 per cent. conſ. 49½⅝	49⅝⅝
4 per cent. 59⅝	58½
5 per cent. 72½	71⅛

THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

For MAY 1798.

	Page
A Subſtitute for Soap	294
Receipt for Purifying the Air of Rooms infected with Contagion	294
Memoirs of Mrs Wollſtoncecraft Godwin	295
Character of Dr Tobias Smollet	301
Anecdotes and Gleanings	
Boerhaave	302
Lord Bacon	302
Hoffman	303
Maſſilon	303
Singularities of Great Men	303
Deſcription of a Perſon deſtined for Long Life	304
Dialogues of the Living—How to ſhorten a Story	305
Thoughts on Spring	309
Anecdotes regarding the Two Sicilies	
Scarcity of Water on Mount Etna	312
Muſeums	312
Lakes of Agnano and Averno	313
Agility of Dolphins	314
Iſlands of Felicuda and Alicuda	314
Account of ſome of the Remarkable Paintings in Holland	317
An humble Apology for a Perſon of Great Diſtinction	320
Gaming, an Apologue	322
Topography and Natural Hiſtory of Scotland,—*County of Aberdeen*	323
Hiſtory of an Emigrant Family	329

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Willyams' Weſt India Campaign	335
Deſcription of a Sale of Slaves	336
A Sketch of Modern France	338
Gamble on the different Modes of conveying Signals	342
Hiſtory of Signals	342
Reflections on the Iriſh Conſpiracy	343
LIST of PUBLICATIONS	344—6

POETRY.

Deſcription of Dunkeld, *by Mr Dyer*	346
The Banks of Doon, *by R. Burns*	349

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

Houſe of Commons—Slave Trade—Redemption of the Land-Tax	349-53

MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Germany—America	353—4
Gazette Intelligence	354—5

LONDON.

Incidental Intelligence	355

IRELAND.

Diſturbances there	355

EDINBURGH.

Defence of the Country	356
General Aſſemby proceedings	358
Circuits	360
Appeals	362
Report of the Weather	363
LISTS—Marriages, Births, Deaths, &c.	363—4

EDINBURGH:

Sold by JAMES WATSON & Co. No 40. South Bridge.

And by the Principal Bookſellers in Town and Country.

And by T. KAY, Strand, London.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR SOAP.

THE great conſumption of ſoap, which of courſe is attended with a proportionate conſumption of oil, renders the manufacture of woollen cloths very expenſive. Several attempts have therefore been made to diſpenſe with this ingredient, by ſubſtituting pot aſhes in its ſtead; but the ſtrong alkaline properties of the latter never fail to corrode the cloth, and render it unſerviceable. To remedy this inconvenience, M. Chaptal has made experiments of a very ingenious proceſs, by ſaturating the the alkaline liquid wool, previous to application to the manufacture of cloths. After lixiviating the aſhes, he ſaturates the water, and lets it evaporate to a certain degree. He then throws into his lixivium pieces of cloth and wool, taking care to ſtir the compoſition, till the rags are completely diſſolved. An adequate proportion of wool ſuperadded, till the corroſive qualities of the liquid are perfectly abſorbed; when it may be uſed without the ſmalleſt inconvenience or danger. It communicates an excellent gloſs to the cloth in the firſt inſtance, acquires a very ſtrong and diſagreeable ſmell, which, however, vaniſhes on its being bleached. And, ſecondly, the indiſcriminate uſe of pieces of cloth of various colours, in ſaturating the lixivium, communicates a duſky tinge to the cloth, which proves no detriment to dark cloths, but conſiderably affects the gloſſineſs of lighter colours. This inconvenience is eaſily obviated, by employing, in the latter caſe, only *white* rags for ſaturating the lixivium.

By M. Chaptal.

RECEIPT

FOR PURIFYING THE AIR OF ROOMS INFECTED WITH CONTAGION.

From Dr Carmichael Smith's Letter to Lord Spencer.

IMMERSE a tea-cup in a pipkin of heated ſand; put into the tea-cup half an ounce of concentrated vitriolic acid, gently heated, and half an ounce pure nitre in powder. Stir them together with a glaſs ſpatula, until a conſiderable degree of vapour ariſes from them.

ANOTHER very common and very efficacious way is, to heat a fire-ſhovel, and pour vinegar into it, ſo as to evaporate and fill the room with the ſteam.

THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

For MAY 1798.

MEMOIRS OF MRS MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT GODWIN,
AUTHOR OF A VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN, &c.

IT was obſerved by Mr Hume, almoſt half a century ago, that there was then "lately ſprung up amongſt us a ſet of men who endeavour to diſtinguiſh themſelves by ridiculing every thing that has hitherto appeared ſacred and venerable in the eyes of mankind. Reaſon, ſociety, honour, friendſhip, marriage, are the perpetual ſubjects of their inſipid raillery." If the complaint could have been then made with juſtice, the times have ſince not improved: to the topicks enumerated by Mr Hume may be now added the ſacred duties of religion, the ſanctions of a future ſtate, and the obligations which bind ſociety together.

The lady whoſe memoirs are now before us appears to have poſſeſſed good abilities, and originally a good diſpoſition; but, with an overweening conceit of herſelf, much obſtinacy and ſelf-will, and a diſpoſition to run counter to eſtabliſhed practices and opinions. Her conduct in the early part of her life was blameleſs, if not exemplary; but the latter part of it blemiſhed with actions, which muſt conſign her name to poſterity (in ſpite of all palliatives) as one whoſe example, if followed, would be attended with the moſt pernicious conſequences to ſociety; a female who could brave the opinion of the world in the moſt delicate point; a philoſophical wanton, breaking down the bars intended to reſtrain licentiouſneſs; and a mother, deſerting a helpleſs offspring, diſgracefully brought into the world by herſelf, by an intended act of ſuicide.

According to Mr Godwin's account, ſhe was born the 27th April 1759, and was treated in her infancy with great and unmerited harſhneſs and ſeverity by her parents, who appear to have been ill qualified for the buſineſs of educating their children. In one of her works, when Mrs Godwin ſpeaks of the petty cares which obſcured the morning of her heroine's life; continual reſtraint in the moſt trivial matter; unconditional ſubmiſſion to orders which, as a mere child, ſhe ſoon diſcovered to be unreaſonable, becauſe inconſiſtent and contradictory; and the being often obliged to ſit in the preſence of her parents three or four hours together, without daring to utter a word; ſhe is to be conſidered as copying the outline of the firſt period of her exiſtence.

Her father was perpetually removing his place of reſidence, and by degrees embarraſſed his circumſtances. About the year 1776 he reſided at Hoxton, and his daughter became acquainted with a female friend, named Frances Blood, who then lived at Newington Butts. Partly by example, and partly through emulation, our authoreſs was led to cultivate her talents. "She had hitherto," ſays Mr Godwin, "paid but a ſuperficial attention to literature: ſhe had read to gratify the ardour of an inextinguiſhable thirſt of knowledge, but ſhe had not thought of writing as an art. Her ambition to excel was now awakened, and ſhe applied herſelf with paſſion and earneſtneſs." Soon after this period ſhe be-

began to be diſſatisfied with her ſituation at home and determined to quit it. She accordingly, in 1778, became the companion of a Mrs Dafon at Bath, with whom ſhe lived two years, and only left her from being ſummoned by the melancholy circumſtances of her mother's rapidly declining health. We extract the following paſſage with great ſatisfaction:

"The illneſs of Mrs Wollſtonecraft was lingering but hopeleſs. Mary (ſuch is the manner in which ſhe is invariably mentioned in this work) was aſſiduous in her attendance upon her mother. At firſt every attention was received with acknowledgements and gratitude; but as the attentions grew habitual, and the health of the mother more and more wretched, they were rather exacted than received. Nothing could be taken by the unfortunate patient but from the hands of Mary: reſt was denied night or day, and by the time nature was exhauſted in the parent, the daughter was qualified to aſſume her place, and become in turn herſelf a patient. The laſt words her mother ever uttered were, 'A little patience, and all will be over!' and theſe words are repeatedly referred to by Mary in the courſe of her writings."

She now bade a final adieu to her father's roof, and went to live with her friend Fanny, and afterwards attended her ſiſter in a dangerous ſtate for ſeveral months. She then, aſſiſted by her friend and two ſiſters, opened a ſchool at Iſlington, but afterwards removed it to Newington Green. She here became acquainted with Dr Price, and "ſometimes attended his ſermons, but not with a ſuperſtitious adherence to his doctrines. The fact is (adds our author), that as far down as the year 1787 ſhe regularly frequented public worſhip, for the moſt part according to the forms of the Church of England. After that period her attendance became leſs conſtant, and in no long time was wholly diſcontinued. I believe it may be admitted as a maxim, that no perſon of a well furniſhed mind, that has ſhaken off the implicit ſubjection of youth, and is not the zealous partizan of a ſect, can bring himſelf to conform to the public and regular routine of ſermons and prayers." We ſhall only remark on this paſſage, that at the time above aſcertained, commenced thoſe eccentricities in Mrs Godwin's conduct, which ſtained the latter part of her life with ignominy. A female, unreſtrained by the obligations of religion, is ſoon ripe for licentious indecorums.

The plan of life adopted by our authoreſs did not laſt long. The health of her friend and partner declined, and ſhe was adviſed to go to Liſbon in the hope of a recovery. As ſhe grew worſe, Mrs Godwin's regard and anxiety for her increaſed: ſhe was impreſſed with the idea that her friend would die in this diſtant country, and ſhocked with the recollection of her ſeparation from the circle of her friends, determined to paſs over to Liſbon to attend her. She had not money to defray the expences of the journey, but was ſupplied by a friend, and in a ſhort time after her arrival at Liſbon, had the melancholy conſolation of attending to the grave, in December 1785, the companion of her youth, whoſe memory ſhe appears to have cheriſhed with unabated tenderneſs. We are glad of an opportunity of beſtowing unqualified praiſe on this inſtance of her affectionate attention.

The ſchool in her abſence had ſuffered conſiderably, and ſhe ſoon judged it proper to relinquiſh it entirely. The father and mother of her deceaſed friend wiſhed to tranſport themſelves to Ireland, and Mrs Godwin undertook to ſupply them with the means. She accordingly wrote her 'Thoughts on the Education of Daughters,' which ſhe ſold for ten guineas. With this ſum ſhe was enabled to effect the purpoſe for which it was procured. There does not appear to have been much

much harmony amongſt the ſiſters whilſt the ſchool laſted.

She then, as a temporary ſituation, accepted the office of governeſs to the daughters of Lord Viſcount Kingſborough, eldeſt ſon to the Earl of Kingſton, in the kingdom of Ireland, and wonders are told of the ſalutary effects of her ſyſtem of education; but when we reflect on what Mr Godwin is ſilent about, the miſconduct of one of her pupils, who has lately brought diſgrace on herſelf, death on her paramour, riſk to the life of her brother and father, and miſery to all her relatives; when we conſider alſo Mrs Godwin's own ſubſequent conduct, we heſitate in giving implicit credit to the eulogium. We fear the pupil was too much influenced by deference to the example of the Governeſs.

The family of Lord Kingſborough, in the ſummer of 1787, came to Briſtol, where Mrs Godwin compoſed a little book, which bears the title of "Mary, a Fiction;" a ſtory, of which a conſiderable part conſiſts, with certain modifications, of the incidents of her own friendſhip with Fanny. At Briſtol, her connection as Governeſs in the Kingſton family ceaſed.

She then devoted her attention entirely to literary ſubjects, and reſided in George-ſtreet, on the Surry ſide of Blackfriars-bridge. Soon after ſhe produced a little work, entituled, "Original Stories from Real Life, intended for the Uſe of Children." At the commencement of her literary career, ſhe is ſaid to have conceived a vehement averſion to the being regarded by her ordinary acquaintance in the character of an author, and to have employed ſome precautions to prevent its occurrence. She now produced ſeveral tranſlations from the French, and took a conſiderable ſhare in the Analytical Review, inſtituted about the middle of 1788. She alſo intereſted herſelf in behalf of the individuals of her family.

At this period Mr Godwin obſerves) the French Revolution, while it gave a fundamental ſhock to the human intellect through every region of the globe, did not fail to produce a conſpicuous effect on the progreſs of Mary's reflections. The prejudices of her early years ſuffered a vehement concuſſion. Her reſpect for eſtabliſhments was undermined. At this period occurred a miſunderſtanding upon public grounds with one of her early friends, whoſe attachment to muſty creeds and exploded abſurdities had been increaſed by the operation of thoſe very circumſtances by which her mind had been rapidly advanced in the race of independence." At the latter end of 1790, ſhe wrote her anſwer to Mr Burke's celebrated book, and ſoon after compoſed "The Vindication of the Rights of Women."

Having quieted any alarms which might be excited by an attendance on public worſhip, ſhe proceeded in her anti-religious plan of independence on ſyſtems with great rapidity. She had until this time, we are to preſume, as Mr Godwin ſays nothing to the contrary, not erred in the article of chaſtity; but at the age of more than 30 years, ſhe diveſted herſelf of that old faſhioned prejudice, and fell in love with Mr Fuſeli the painter. "She conceived," ſays her huſband, "a perſonal and ardent affection for him. Mr Fuſeli was a married man, and his wife the acquaintance of Mary. She readily perceived the reſtrictions which this circumſtance ſeemed to impoſe upon her; but ſhe made light of any difficulty that might ariſe out of them." This platonic regard ſoon diſſatisfied her. "It was in vain that ſhe enjoyed much pleaſure in his ſociety, and that ſhe enjoyed it frequently. Her ardent imagination was continually conjuring up pictures of the happineſs ſhe ſhould have found, if fortune had favoured their more intimate union. She felt herſelf formed for domeſtic affection, and all thoſe tender charities, which men of ſenſibility have con-

conſtantly treated as the deareſt band of human ſociety. General converſation and ſociety could not ſatisfy her. She felt herſelf alone, as it were, in the great maſs of her ſpecies, and ſhe repined when ſhe reflected, that the beſt years of her life were ſpent in this comfortleſs ſolitude." She therefore went to France, apparently without any ſettled plan, and "four months after her arrival at Paris, in December 1792, deliberately entered (as Mr Godwin expreſſes it) into that ſpecies of connection, for which her heart ſecretly panted, and which had the effect of diffuſing an immediate tranquillity and chearfulneſs over her manners." The perſon with whom ſhe formed this connection was Mr Gilbert Imlay, a native of North America, and Mr Godwin is minute enough, though ſomething incompatible with the former date, to mark the time of the conſummation of this intrigue to be the middle of April 1793.

But this tranquillity and chearfulneſs was not to laſt long. The illicit connection puniſhed itſelf: Imlay, who is deſcribed as a vulgar ſenſualiſt, after becoming the father of a child by her, grew, as might be expected, negligent and indifferent towards her. He left her in France with her child; and the lady, impatient at his abſence, followed him to England, and ſoon after took a journey to Norway, to ſettle ſome buſineſs for him.

In the early part of this volume (p. 38.) Mrs Godwin is ſaid to have poſſeſſed "a firmneſs of mind, an unconquerable greatneſs of ſoul, by which, after a ſhort internal ſtruggle, ſhe was accuſtomed to riſe above difficulties and ſuffering." Whatever ſhe undertook, ſhe perhaps in all inſtances accompliſhed, and to her lofty ſpirit ſcarcely any thing ſhe deſired appeared hard to perform. But the defection of Mr Imlay was too much for her, and ſhe became ſubject to ſuch weakneſs, as the weakeſt of her ſex would have avoided.

It was not long after her arrival in London, in the commencement of October, that ſhe attained the certainty ſhe ſought. Mr Imlay procured her a lodging. But the neglect ſhe experienced from him after ſhe entered it, flaſhed conviction upon her, in ſpite of his aſſeverations. She made further inquiries, and at length was informed by a ſervant of the real ſtate of the caſe. Under the immediate ſhock which the painful certainty gave her, her firſt impulſe was to repair to him at the ready furniſhed houſe he had provided for his new miſtreſs. What was the particular nature of their conference I am unable to relate. It is ſufficient to ſay, that the wretchedneſs of the night which ſucceeded this fatal diſcovery, impreſſed her with the feeling, that ſhe would ſooner ſuffer a thouſand deaths, than paſs another of equal miſery.

The agony of her mind determined her; and that determination gave her a ſort of deſperate ſerenity. She reſolved to plunge herſelf into the Thames; and not being ſatisfied with any ſpot nearer to London, ſhe took a boat, and rowed to Putney. Her firſt thought had led her to Batterſea-bridge, but ſhe found it too public. It was night when ſhe arrived at Putney, and by that time it had begun to rain with great violence. The rain ſuggeſted to her the idea of walking up and down the bridge, till her clothes were thoroughly drenched and heavy with the wet, which ſhe did for half an hour without meeting a human being. She then leaped from the top of the bridge, but ſtill ſeemed to find a difficulty in ſinking, which ſhe endeavoured to counteract by preſſing her clothes cloſely round her. After ſome time ſhe became inſenſible; but ſhe always ſpoke of the pain ſhe underwent as ſuch, that, though ſhe could afterwards have determined upon almoſt every other ſpecies of voluntary death, it would have been impoſſible for her to reſolve upon encoun-

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